

GOING, GOING, GONE



Tribune File

Ladies close the
alcohol gender gap **6**

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Superstar!' **9**

Everyone's buzzing
about Oscar **26**

Beer, goth, poetry on
tap this weekend **19**

2do

» Sharpen your origami skills



To dance

Show off your moves at a taping of a Goga-Go-Motion dance competition for "The Ellen DeGeneres Show" from 2 to 5 p.m. Saturday and Sunday at Old Navy (35 N. State St.) and you could win \$10,000 or a Nintendo Wii.

To bid

Buy car-inspired art at auctions throughout World of Wheels from Friday through Sunday at McCormick Place (2301 S. Lake Shore Drive). All proceeds go to a new Ronald McDonald House.

To save

Ladies can take 60 percent off wool coats, silk dresses and cocktail attire while snacking on cupcakes and drinks from 2 to 8 p.m. Friday at Serpico (1514 N. Ashland Ave.).

To fold

Impress your friends by crafting everything from penguins to jewelry cases out of paper with help from origami-club.com/en, which provides step-by-step instructions for hundreds of origami figures.



What's the deal?

Seeds of change

We're going to let you in on an urban agriculture secret: There is no off-season for indoor herb gardening. Invest a few bucks in some seeds, and freshly plucked chives, basil and parsley all can be yours in the dead of winter. And for folks who are looking for a long-term solution to cutting their produce budgets, home gardening could prove to be a popular option once porches and balconies become hospitable to potted vegetables. How popular? In 2009, mail-order and Web site gardening sales are expected to total more than \$3 billion, Mailorder Gardening Association spokesman Randy Schultz recently told The Associated Press. For more information on mail-order gardening and links to more than 100 seed and garden catalogs, visit mallordergardening.com.

Aye, aye caption

Text us a funny caption for the photo below and we'll print the best in an upcoming issue of RedEye. To give it a shot, text the word "caption" followed by your brief caption and your name to 47383. Good luck!



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Sunny, but cold	Maybe snow late
MON. 19 10	TUE. 26 16
Clouds, more cold	Getting warmer

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31 13
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MON. 19 10	TUE. 26 16
Clouds, more cold	Getting warmer

Detox danger?

Ever-growing popularity of detox diets has doctors questioning the regimens

New York Times News Service

Dioxins. PCBs. Phthalates. Those are the reasons Randall Hansen and his wife, Katharine, embark on an annual detoxification program.

The Hansens, who live in DeLand, Fla., have made a ritual of doing the "Fat Flush Plan" at least once a year "to cleanse our bodies and help break some bad habits," said Hansen, 48, president of Quintessential Careers, a career guidance Web site.

The regimen, made famous by nutritionist Ann Louise Gittleman in a 2001 book, mostly targets the liver, which Gittleman believes is less able to metabolize fat because of toxins absorbed orally or through the skin. Her plan includes a menu of about 1,200 calories a day, with no alcohol, caffeine, sugar, grains, bread, starchy vegetables, dairy products, fats or oils (with the exception of flaxseed oil).

She also recommends a "Long Life Cocktail" of diluted cranberry juice and ground flaxseeds, or a teaspoon of psyllium husks, in the morning and evening; and a mixture of cranberry juice and water throughout the day. Gittleman sells a Fat Flush kit for \$112.50 with herbs and nutrients like dandelion root, milk thistle and Oregon grape root.

"It's horrible when I'm on it—I feel very deprived," said Hansen, who credits the program with helping him lose more than 70 pounds. "But I always feel better after, and I end up dropping about 10 pounds in the two weeks—an added bonus on top of the detox."

The Hansens are among the thousands of Americans who regularly "detox" in an effort to rid the gastrointestinal system of unsavory substances that proponents believe build up and can cause allergies, exhaustion and certain cancers.

But many Western doctors question the legitimacy of the regimens and their claims of promoting good health, believing detoxification does little to no good, and is possibly harmful.

"It is the opinion of mainstream and state-of-the-art medicine and physiology that these claims are not only ludicrous but tantamount to fraud," said Dr. Peter Pressman, an internist with the Naval Hospital in Jacksonville, Fla., and a critic of detoxification. "The contents of what ends up being consumed during



THE NEW YORK TIMES

a 'detox' are essentially stimulants, laxatives and diuretics."

But detoxification is enormously popular, according to SPINS, a market research and consulting firm based in Schaumburg that caters to the natural and organic products industry.

Sales of herbal formulas for cleansing, detoxification and organ support among natural food retailers were more than \$27 million from Dec. 2, 2007, to Nov. 29, 2008.

A survey by Chicago-based Mintel International found that 54 food and drink products were launched in 2008 with the word "detox" in their descriptions—up from 15 in 2003.

New York-based fitness trainer David Kirsch's products include "LemonAid 48 Hour Detox Diet," which consists of lemon, purified water, maple syrup and cayenne pepper. A 32-ounce bottle of his "one of a kind supplement" costs \$24.99 on his Web site.

NINE LINES

A catty take on this week's news.

Hey now

1 Obama Family Watch, Day 316: The First Family still hasn't chosen a dog to adopt, though "Paul Blart: Mall Cop" has emerged as a strong contender.

Giggity

2 Hillary Clinton, meanwhile, formally took the reins as secretary of state on Thursday. And Bill announced the department's first Intern Wet T-Shirt Contest.

How far we've come

3 President Obama has been given the green light to use his BlackBerry in office. Not since George Washington painted messages on a donkey and gave it a sharp kick has there been such a watershed moment in presidential history.

New deal

4 There's no question the new White House wants to appear more in touch with Americans' needs. And so, from here on out, all communications will be oven-toasted before they are delivered.

Fat chance

5 On that note, Potbelly's is introducing new "Skinny" sandwiches. In response, Sonic unveiled a new line of "Not entirely horrible for your figure if you're in the right light and wearing the right outfit" milkshakes.

Super snub

6 Once again the Oscars got it all wrong. Yeah, you know what we're talking about: No Miley Cyrus in the best original song category? Total outrage. Billy Ray's mullet has demanded a full explanation.

Wispy business

7 "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" leads all nominees, including a "Sketchiest Off-Screen Mustache" nod for Brad Pitt.

Excessive force

8 A snowball fight on a college campus in North Carolina reportedly got so out of hand police broke it up with pepper spray. Fortunately authorities didn't have to resort to smoke grenades, which they reserve for raging tickle fights.

Big time

9 The milliner who made the bow-hat Aretha Franklin wore on Inauguration Day says he's been flooded with offers from people looking to buy something similar. Presumably so they can be seen from outer space.

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TALK TO US

What do you think of the current coverage of First Lady Michelle Obama? Tell Kyra by sending her an e-mail at kkyles@tribune.com. Please include your full name, age and neighborhood, as we may print your comment in the RedEye.

First lady is more than a pretty face

Check out those gorgeous clothes.

Look at those perfectly arched eyebrows.

Get an eye full of that “Nexus-flowing hair,” to quote Cali rappers Souls of Mischief.

I’m not talking about a Barbie, a Bratz doll or even a seriously stylish friend of mine.

I’m aggregating recent coverage of First Lady Michelle Obama, which ranges from breathless blogging about her butter-cream (or was it lemon-colored?) suit at the inauguration to the designer of the dress she wore to prayer services the next day.

Obama is—as her own husband has attested—a good-looking woman. She embodies an everywoman aesthetic that is refreshing in a fashion world dominated by stick figures and vapid socialites.

But it’s a sad day when an intelligent professional, who mentored her uber-powerful husband at the law firm where they met, is known for little more than what she keeps in her closet.

Do reporters shout “who are you wearing?” to former president George W. Bush? Has former President Bill Clinton ever been taken to task for his tie choices?

Heck no.

And though President Obama attracts attention with his own attire, coverage of the cut of his suit has rightfully given way to a focus on his political goals. That leaves the first lady to suffer alone under the red dot of fashion scrutiny.

For some, “Michelle as fashionista” coverage is spurred on by her status as an attractive brown-skinned woman in the too-rare role of being celebrated for class and style.

Even in Hollywood, only a handful of beautiful, chocolate-coated starlets—including Kerry Washington, Aisha Tyler and Gabrielle Union—currently claim that distinction.

That’s still no reason to reduce Michelle Obama to red-carpet captions. Nor should that be the case for any other woman under the political hot lights.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.) netted unwarranted attention for her pantsuit picks in 2006. Someone should be booted for focusing on the footwear of former Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice. New Secretary of State Hillary Clinton is no stranger to a political pundit version of “What Not to Wear.”

First ladies are judged by an even more shallow standard. The iconic Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis is known more for her purse choices than personal passions. But it’s not too late to change the sexist slant of coverage, especially with a first lady with an impressive education on par with her partner’s.

Michelle Obama might not be poised to overhaul the health-care system, but neither is she White House window dressing. President Obama himself is in awe of her beautiful mind.

“I hate following my wife,” the president remarked at a March 2007 appearance in New York, according to the New York Post. “It is true my wife is smarter, better looking.”

If the president can appreciate Michelle Obama’s intellect as well as her appearance, we should be willing to do the same.



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Sobering statistics

About 5.3 million U.S. women drink in a way that threatens their health and safety, according to the National Institute on Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism. Here's a look at female drinking by the numbers:

60%

Of U.S. women have at least one drink a year

13%

Of U.S. women who drink have more than seven drinks per week

39.2%

Of female drinkers who reported in 2006 that they had a recent drink said they drink alcohol regularly, compared with 38.9 percent in 1997

24.1%

Of U.S. female high school students reported having five or more drinks of alcohol in a row in a recent month

40%

Women who begin drinking before age 15 have a 40 percent higher risk of abusing alcohol or developing alcoholism than those who wait until age 21 to begin drinking

50-100%

Female alcoholics have death rates 50 to 100 percent higher than those of male alcoholics

4,575

The number of females who died from alcohol-induced causes in 1999

5,396

The number of females who died from alcohol-induced causes in 2005

the drinking gap

Women becoming more dependent on alcohol—and their bodies can't handle it

By Tracy Swartz | REDEYE

Blame it on the alcopops—fruity malt beverages such as Mike's Hard Lemonade and Smirnoff Ice. Or blame it on TV, where "Gossip Girl" has repopularized the martini, "Sex and the City" put the pink cosmo on the map and the drumbeat of Bacardi mojito ads gets even the elitist girls on the dance floor. Whatever the reason, the gender gap in alcoholism is closing.

Party's over, ladies: Women have shown "substantial" increases in drinking, and their alcohol dependence has "about doubled" over the last decade, Washington University professor Rick Grucza has found. Men, meanwhile, have been more or less steady in their levels of alcohol dependence.

Grucza, who studied alcohol surveys from the '90s and early this decade, says acculturation—when minority groups adopt behaviors of the dominant culture—may be the reason for the gradual increase in alcoholism among women over the last several years.

Men set the drinking bar, and women started following their lead after World War II, when women started assuming "a lot of the roles that men previously assumed or those roles were more open to them," said Grucza, who published his study in May.

Increases in drinking rates were particularly notable among white and Hispanic women, Grucza said.

Though it has become more socially acceptable to try to match a man shot for shot, a woman's body just can't keep up. Female drinkers are more likely to suffer from liver and brain damage and osteoporosis than men drinking the same amounts of alcohol, addiction experts say.

"Women do not have the body mass to manage alcohol at the same levels that a man does," said Jill Wiedemann-West, chief operating officer for clinical and recovery services at Hazelden, which has an alcohol and drug treatment facility in the Gold Coast.

Asked if she can outdrink her husband, Jeff, Stacy Rose of Manteno, about 40 miles south of the Loop, laughed and responded, "Oh, God, no."

Rose, a non-heavy drinker who describes herself as "very tiny," says she's moved past her Bud Light phase and now prefers a glass or two of pinot noir. But she's noticed that stress from work and home seem to fuel increased drinking habits in her group of thirtysomething mommies.

Meanwhile, Rose said, her twentysomething friends and co-workers seem to gravitate toward their trendier cocktails, shots and hard liquor.

"Martinis seem to be real big with my younger friends, the whole 'Sex and the City'-type thing," said Rose, 30. "Making it a lot [more] glamorous just makes people want to do it more."

Like Rose's friends, more women seem to be under the influence of liquor marketing. David Jernigan, former executive director of the now-defunct Center on Alcohol Marketing and Youth at Georgetown University, said the number of cable TV ads for distilled spirits has grown from 1,973 ads in 2001 to 62,776 ads in 2007.

These ads have helped propel the popularity of alcopops—known as "beer with training wheels"—that tend to target young female drinkers, Jernigan said. Since 2001, women have been shifting their focus from beer to these distilled spirits, such as Seagrams coolers and Lynchburg Lemonade, which typically have a higher percentage of alcohol than beer (the male drink of choice for years), Jernigan said.

"It's just not credible that a guy is going to order a strawberry vodka," said Jernigan, an associate professor at the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health.

Amber Williams, 28, of Matteson agrees and said she's more apt to drink a fruity cocktail than a beer. Even so,

Calculator

How many drinks does it take for a woman to get drunk? That number varies based on body weight, the amount of alcohol in the drink and the time period of consumption, among other factors.

RedEye plugged a few criteria into the blood-alcohol calculator on [Insure.com](#), which bases its formula on standards from the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. A drink in this calculation assumes a volume of 0.54 ounces of alcohol—the equivalent of one shot of distilled spirits, a glass of wine or 12 ounces of beer. In Illinois, a blood-alcohol content of 0.08 is considered legally drunk.

A 130-pound woman drinking two drinks over an hour would have a BAC of 0.05.

A 150-pound woman drinking two drinks over an hour would have a BAC of 0.04.

A 130-pound woman drinking four drinks over two hours would have a BAC of 0.11.

A 150-pound woman drinking four drinks over two hours would have a BAC of 0.09.

Celebs in rehab

It was a woman who influenced the popular celebrity alcohol and drug rehab center that Liza Minnelli, Mary Tyler Moore, Elizabeth Taylor and other leading ladies have been admitted. The Betty Ford Center in Southern California is named for former President Gerald Ford's wife, who suffered from alcohol dependence. RedEye takes a look at three other famous women who have battled the bottle. **TRACY SWARTZ**



Talk about starting young. **DREW BARRYMORE** said she began drinking before she hit her tweens, and by 14 she had been to rehab—twice. "I think I had some mechanism in my head that said, 'If you don't pull it together for yourself, no one else will,'" Barrymore told the March 2008 issue of *Vogue*.



In "Sex and the City," Charlotte York is fond of holding a cosmo. In real life, **KRISTIN DAVIS** said she suffered from alcohol addiction at an early age but is sober now.



After a wild Memorial Day weekend in 2007 that involved a hit-and-run, **LINDSAY LOHAN** checked into the Promises treatment center in Malibu, completing a 45-day rehab stint. In the February issue of *Interview* magazine, she laments, "I lived maybe six months out of my life like that ... and then I stopped."

Williams said she prefers red wine when she gathers with seven to 10 of her girlfriends once a month for ladies night at T.G.I. Friday's or another location.

"I could definitely say probably in my college years, my younger years, I was drinking more and experimenting more, and as I got older I found an acquired taste for wine or more subtle things," Williams said. "From what I can see, most of the ladies I know stick to wine as opposed to harder drinks like vodka or Hennessy."

But even wine should be approached with caution: While it seems more sophisticated, it is no less potent. One 5-ounce glass of wine has the same amount of alcohol as one 12-ounce beer and as a 1.5-ounce shot of liquor, according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

Even tougher to swallow are U.S. dietary guidelines, which say women shouldn't drink more than one alcoholic drink a day while men shouldn't consume more than two drinks daily.

Women have less water content in their bodies than men to dilute the alcohol, Wiedemann-West said. The alcohol that women drink also is more likely to be absorbed by fatty tissues and organs such as the liver and brain because they produce fewer enzymes in their stomachs to help break down the alcohol molecule.

"Drinking affects females at a much higher rate and a much deeper level than it does males," Wiedemann-West said. "I think it's been a lot more socially acceptable for males to have that sort of social and collegial drinking behavior than it has been for women. But I think it has become a lot more comfortable in female ranks." **TSWARTZ@TRIBUNE.COM**

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chicago

DIBS, SCHMIBS

SAVING SPOTS MAY BE TRADITION, BUT CITY OFFICIALS WANT IT GONE

Chicago Tribune

You spent hours clearing a car-shaped hole out of ice and snow, and you still have the sore back to prove it. So what's so wrong about protecting that spot, earned through pain and sweat, with a household item or two?

Plenty, Chicago officials said Thursday, wagging their fingers and shouting a stern "no fair" to the time-honored tradition of dibs. Citing a rare run of snowless weather for the city, the Department of Streets and Sanitation asked residents to remove the myriad folding chairs, orange cones, beer kegs and garden gnomes that have held sentry over that precious patch of cleared asphalt in recent weeks.

The practice technically is against the law because it's an obstruction of the public way, said Streets and Sanitation spokesman Matt Smith. But the department uses common sense in allowing the informal justice of dibs to hold sway in the side streets for a few days after major snowstorms.

"We try to be tolerant with people putting out what we call street furniture or space-savers. We see this every year," Smith said. "When we have a heavy snow, we're busy with other things. There are bigger fish to fry in terms of snow-clearing operations."

"But after a while, when we see stuff on the street, we put out the word to get rid of it."

Typically, the dibs-claimer in question does not receive a fine, Smith said. But once the command goes out that dibs time is over, city crews will move place-holder items and sometimes trash them.

Perhaps because this winter has been



Chairs hold shoveled on-street parking spots on Mozart and Cortland Streets on the Northwest Side earlier this month. MICHAEL TERCHA/TRIBUNE

harsher than normal, the admonishments to end the current dibs period have been particularly icy. On Wednesday, Ald. Richard Mell (33rd) sent a letter that scolded residents in his ward who stepped outside the acceptable bounds of dibs-claiming.

"A disturbing trend has been observed regarding this practice," Mell wrote in the

e-mail alert. "It has been reported to our office that many parking markers are being put out prior to snowfalls, during snowfalls of little consequence and remain out long after a particular snowfall has melted."

As an alternative, Mell suggests that neighbors organize "a shoveling party" to clear the block of curbside snow in one fell swoop.

Smith agreed, saying the brief reprieve from freezing weather forecast for Chicago on Friday offers a golden opportunity for neighbors to work together against the weather, rather than resorting to every shovel for himself.

"The best way around all of this is to be good neighbors," Smith said.

G-Rod says 'impeachment trial is a sham'

Chicago Tribune

Speaking to reporters outside his home Thursday, Gov. Blagojevich accused the Illinois House and Senate of attempting to "thwart the will of the people" by removing a twice-elected governor.

"The impeachment trial is a sham," he said.

Blagojevich said he was being denied due process because he is unable to subpoena witnesses. For instance, he said he wants to call Rahm Emanuel, President Obama's chief of staff, to testify on his behalf. He noted that

Emanuel in a TV interview "made it clear nothing inappropriate" was said in his conversations with Blagojevich about naming someone to Obama's former Senate seat. His comments came a day after he missed a deadline for seeking witnesses, documents or other materials to be used in his defense.

Rikeesha Phelon, spokeswoman for Senate President John Cullerton (D-Chicago), said "This is a blatant attempt to muddy the distinction between a criminal court process and the Senate impeachment proceeding and rules," Phelon said.

'ROD BLAGOJEVICH SUPERSTAR!'

Second City is calling it the ultimate Obama buzz-kill: The Passion of Blagojevich.

The storied Chicago comedy company says its Second City Theatricals arm will open a new musical on Feb. 3, spoofing the travails of the indicted Illinois governor in a musical pastiche that draws inspiration from "Jesus Christ Superstar," "Godspell," and similar rock operas from the 1970s.

A yet-to-be-finalized cast of Second City veterans will portray such characters as Patrick Fitzgerald, Dick Mell, Lisa Madigan and,

of course, Roland Burris.

The infamous hair brush is slated for an appearance, as is a number called "Jogging."

Penned by Ed Furman and T.J. Shanoff (who created the wildly successful Improv Olympic parody "The Roof is on Fiddler"), "Rod Blagojevich Superstar!" will initially play on Tuesday and Wednesday nights in the Second City e.t.c. space. If all goes well, the run will be expanded and move to a prime-time slot.

Man convicted in beating death

A 20-year-old felon was convicted of voluntary manslaughter but not second-degree murder charges Thursday in the beating death of another inmate in March in the city's downtown federal prison. A federal jury found Jason Tolen guilty of the lesser charge. Officials said the slaying of Jason Katz, 32, was the first in the Metropolitan Correctional Center since its opening in 1975.

Officer fires gun

A police officer fired his gun as two people tried to flee the scene of an alleged burglary in Wrightwood, authorities said. The Independent Police Review Authority is investigating the incident, which occurred Thursday in the 8200 block of South Francisco Avenue, said IPRA spokesman Mark Payne. During the incident an officer fired his gun, but no one was struck, Chicago Police Sgt. Antoinette Ursitti said. Both occupants of the vehicle were arrested.

Day-care aide 'heartbroken'

The young woman charged in the killing of a 16-month-old boy at a Lincolnshire day-care center last week is "very upset" and "heartbroken" for the child's family, her attorney said in a court appearance Thursday. Scott Gordon said his client, Melissa Calusinski, 22, plans to plead not guilty to the first-degree murder charges in the death of the boy, but he declined to discuss further legal strategy after the hearing in the Lake County Courthouse.

O'Hare flights at 15-year low

A new Federal Aviation Administration report shows traffic at O'Hare has fallen to its lowest level in at least 15 years. Here are some specific numbers.

881,556

Total arrivals and departures at the airport in 2008

926,973

Total from 2007

882,112

Previous low in 1994

992,471

Peak total number of arrivals and departures recorded in 2004



Shoes are strung Saturday over utility wires in an alley in Humboldt Park. City officials say the shoes are an eyesore, a safety hazard and a potential crime contributor. E. JASON WAMBSGANS/TRIBUNE

What do those hanging sneakers symbolize?

In the shadows of "L" tracks, near the netless basketball hoops, the sneakers hang on electrical wires, their laces tied together.

Urban legend has it that this shoe-flinging, "shoefiti" as some Web sites have dubbed it, has meaning on the city streets. The shoes mark the location of drug sales. They came from a gang marking its territory. They are a rebuff to the shoes' owner, meant to bully or taunt.

Others believe that whatever meaning the shoes once had, it's gone now. It's just something kids do for fun.

"They grab them, tie them up and throw them," said Julio Diaz, 34, as high-tops dangled over his head in Humboldt Park.

Whatever the case, city officials say the shoes are an eyesore, a safety hazard and a potential contributor to crime.

"It might appear to be a juvenile prank, but it's not," said Matt Smith, spokesman for the Chicago Department of Streets and Sanitation.

"My experience is that it's somehow announcing the availability of drugs, not something we think should be out there."

Smith said his department works with the Chicago police to take down the shoes, acting on complaints referred from the city's 311 help line.

The city had 1,200 requests last year to remove gym shoes, balloons and other objects from wires, down from just over 3,000 in 2007, said Phillip Hampton, director of 311 services.

Hampton's numbers suggest shoe hanging has declined in recent years, and other observers agree.

"We haven't seen a lot of this," said Chicago Police spokeswoman Monique Bond. "It's something that has been seen in the past. It was termed 'old school.'"

Tio Hardiman, director of mediation services at CeaseFire, an anti-violence group, said the practice was popular in Chicago in the 1970s.

Blame it on the 'S-A-T-E,' Daley says

Mayor Daley blamed the state Thursday for his decision to close four of the city's 12 outpatient mental health centers.

The Tribune first reported that Daley's health commissioner cited the loss of \$1.2 million in state funding in ordering the Feb. 1 closures. Public health advocates have blasted the move as unnecessary, but Daley said it wasn't his fault.

"We didn't cut. It was the state of Illinois that didn't fund us," Daley said. "See, you've got the facts wrong. The state of Illinois funds those centers. We did not cut. They have cut state mental health facilities all over the state. That is state money. Underline that. S-A-T-E [sic] money. It's called state money. Let's get the facts. These facts are not correct, so you have to correct people."

The mental health centers receive about \$13 million in funding annually, with \$7 million coming from the state.

Asked what can be done about the situation, Daley said, "Well, we don't know. It's very, very difficult."

MAYOR ADDRESSES ALDERMAN'S ARREST

Daley commented on the drunken-driving arrest Wednesday of Ald. Sharon Denise Dixon (24th). Dixon, a City Council rookie, has denied that she was drunk. He said the arrest does not reflect negatively on politicians. "No, it's people, not just public officials. It's people. I don't know how many people are arrested for that maybe in one day, but it's a very serious thing."

November bank robbery suspect arrested

A 23-year-old Rogers Park man was arrested and charged with robbing a Northwest Side bank in November, authorities announced Thursday.

Bogdan Lungu of the 1000 block of West Pratt Boulevard was arrested last week after being charged with the Nov. 17 robbery of a Chase Bank branch at 5813 N. Milwaukee Ave., the FBI said in a news release.

Lungu walked into the bank around noon that day and handed a teller a note, announcing a robbery and demanding money, according to the FBI.

After getting about \$5,000, he fled onto Milwaukee Avenue where he became lost in the crowd. No injuries were reported.

Lungu already was being held in Cook County Jail on unrelated charges when he was

identified as the alleged robber.

Lungu, who was ordered held without bail during a federal court hearing on a felony count of bank robbery, also is suspected of holding up another Chase Bank at 7015 N. Western Ave. on Dec. 3, the FBI said.

He faces up to 20 years in prison on the charge related to the November robbery.

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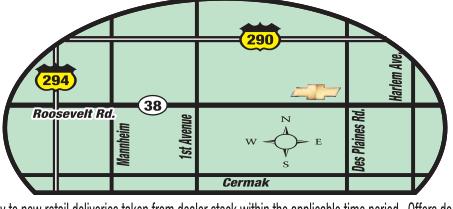


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Controlled burn

1 Palestinians gather around a fire as they burn trash taken from their damaged home in Beit Lahiya in the Gaza Strip. AP

Roe v. Wade rally

2 Tens of thousands of abortion opponents rallied Thursday on the National Mall to mark the 36th anniversary of Roe v. Wade amid concerns they could face political setbacks under the new president.

Smoking deaths

Kentucky and West Virginia—where people traditionally smoke the most—have the highest death rates from smoking, a new federal study has found. Rounding out the 10 states with the highest average annual smoking death rates were Nevada, Mississippi, Oklahoma, Tennessee, Arkansas, Alabama, Indiana and Missouri.

Mayor pressured to quit

3 Four newspapers in Portland, Ore., and the city police union are calling on the mayor to resign, after he admitted he lied by denying he had a sexual relationship with a teenage boy.

Snow no you don't

4 Authorities at East Carolina University in Greenville, N.C., say a huge snowball fight Tuesday got out of control, forcing campus police to use pepper spray on some students to contain the rowdy crowd.

Iraqi risks

5 A hasty departure of U.S. troops from Iraq would carry severe risks, including bolstering Al Qaeda and threatening Iraqi progress toward a functioning society, the outgoing U.S. ambassador said Thursday.

Wood you look at that

6 Authorities in Ramsgate, England, say more than 1,000 tons of timber knocked off the deck of a Russian cargo ship are washing up on the coast. Piles of wooden planks cluttered beaches in southern England on Thursday.

Coup in Turkey?

7 Police in Ankara, Turkey, detained dozens of people Thursday in a new wave of arrests connected with an alleged secularist plot to bring down the Islamic-rooted government, the state-run Anatolia news agency said.

BarackBerry gets to stay

8 **WASHINGTON** President Obama is keeping his cherished BlackBerry for personal use, becoming the first sitting president to use e-mail.

"The president has a BlackBerry through a compromise that allows him to stay in touch with senior staff and a small group of personal friends," White House spokesman Robert Gibbs said Thursday.

Gibbs said the president will limit its use, and security has been enhanced to ensure that Obama can communicate in a way that's protected.

Previous presidents chose not to use

HOW ABOUT AN iPhone?

RedEye's iPhone blogger Scott Kleinberg offers up 10 reasons Obama should switch to an iPhone. Check it out here:

<http://bit.ly/c4Lx>

e-mail because it can be subpoenaed by Congress and courts and may be subject to public records laws.

Gibbs said the presumption from the White House counsel's office is that e-mails will be subject to the Presidential Records Act, the law that requires the National Archives to preserve presidential

records. But he also said that some exemptions in the law allow for "strictly personal communications." He did not say how that classification would be determined. Obama's BlackBerry has been a constant companion during the campaign and transition, and he had noted publicly that he was in negotiations to find a way to keep the device despite security concerns and records-keeping issues.

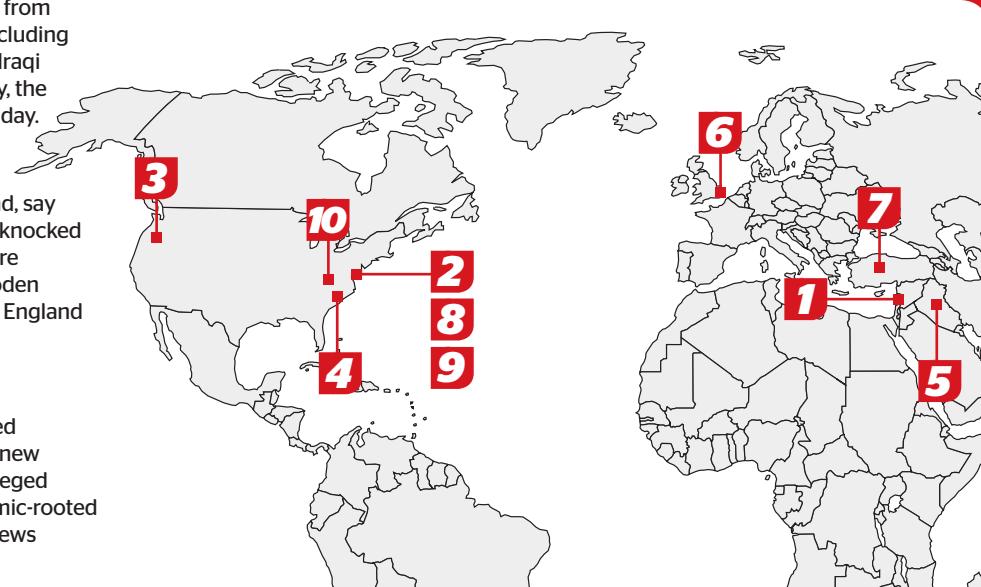
Gibbs said the president believes that using a personal hand-held e-mail device is an effective way to keep in touch with people without "getting stuck in a bubble."



Clinton takes charge

9 Hillary Clinton took the reins of the State Department on Thursday, proclaiming the start of a new era of robust U.S. diplomacy to tackle the world's crises and improve America's standing abroad. Before a raucous, cheering crowd of about 1,000 people, the nation's 67th secretary of state pledged to boost the morale and resources of the diplomatic corps and promised them a difficult but exciting road ahead.

GETTY IMAGES



Va. Tech suspect charged with murder

10 **BLACKSBURG, Va.** A graduate student from China has been charged with murder in the fatal stabbing of a female student on Virginia Tech's campus, the first killing there since a deadly mass shooting in 2007.

An electronic alert system revamped after the massacre warned students to stay in place while police investigated the incident around 7:45 p.m. Wednesday—about half an hour after the suspect was taken into custody. They were cleared to resume normal activity about an hour later.

The woman, who also was a graduate student but was not identified, was stabbed to death at a cafe in the Graduate Life Center. Police believe she knew the man accused of attacking her, 25-year-old Haiyang Zhu, the school said in a news release.

sports



Tom Ricketts

Represents family whose wealth is estimated by Forbes at \$2.6 billion.

Post: Chief executive of Incapital, a Chicago-based investment bank

Age: 43

Residence: Wilmette

Resume: Family patriarch J. Joe Ricketts became an online-stock-trading leader by founding the Ameritrade discount brokerage in Omaha. The bid's point person is son Tom Ricketts, who moved to Chicago in 1983 to attend college and lives in the suburbs. Two siblings, Laura Ricketts and Todd Ricketts, live in the Chicago area. The fourth, Pete Ricketts, lives in Omaha and ran for the U.S. Senate in 2006.

Business style: Tom Ricketts wanted to make it on his own and never worked at Ameritrade, now TD Ameritrade Holding Corp. A market maker at the Chicago Board Options Exchange and finance executive before starting investment bank Incapital LLC.

Cubs connection: Tom Ricketts grew up watching the team on WGN. Once lived in an apartment above a bar across the street from Wrigley Field. Met his wife in the bleachers at a Cubs game.

Personal: Undergraduate and MBA degrees from the University of Chicago. Married, with five children.

Quote: "There are a lot of people in this world that would say Tom Ricketts is their best friend," said Curt Conklin, a college roommate who has worked at Ameritrade and Incapital. "If you wanted to go have a beer, Tom was there." **TRIBUNE**

\$900,000

Ricketts family is top Cubs bidder

Chicago Tribune

The Cubs and their storied legacy of losing are set to change hands, with the billionaire Ricketts family emerging as the favored bidder to buy the team from Tribune Co. for a landmark price of \$900 million.

The family, which has Chicago connections but made its fortune building a discount stock brokerage in Omaha, confirmed Thursday night that it has been selected by Tribune Co. to begin exclusive negotiations to buy the team, Wrigley Field and a 25 percent stake in Comcast SportsNet, a regional cable network.

Sources put the value of the bid at about \$900 million. That works out to \$9 million for each season since the team's last World Series title in 1908.

"My family and I are Cubs fans," said Tom Ricketts, the family's point person in the Cubs purchase. "We share the goal of Cubs fans everywhere to win a World Series and build the consistent championship tradition that the fans deserve."

Tribune Co.'s selection of the Ricketts' bid culminates a nearly two-year auction process that was complicated by the global financial crisis and, more recently, the media company's bankruptcy filing. But the deal isn't sealed yet.

The family will have to hammer out a final agreement with Tribune Co. and secure financing amid the worst credit markets since the Depression. Once a contract is inked, the deal must be approved by 23 of baseball's 30 owners. Cubs officials have said they hope to have the new owners in place by the start of the season in April.

The sale of the Cubs would represent a return to family ownership. Before Tribune Co. bought the team in 1981, the Wrigley family, founders of the chewing-gum company, owned the Cubs for 65 years. The Wrigleys sold the team to Tribune Co., which owns the Chicago



Tribune, for \$20.5 million.

At Harry Caray's restaurant, fans talked about the potential sale Thursday with a mix of emotions. Lindsay O'Connell, 22, said the sale worries her a bit "because fans have become accustomed to the organization being run by the Tribune."

"Lately more money has been put into the team," she said. "Hopefully, the new owners will follow that lead and keep the same traditions."

Brian Baker, 32, said he's deeply attached to Wrigley. He doesn't care if "bricks fall on his head" at games; he just does not want the stadium torn down and rebuilt.

The Ricketts family is hardly as well known as any of the current owners of the city's major professional sports franchises. But that certainly would change quickly for the new custodians

of one of the country's best-known teams, most historic stadiums and longest-running championship droughts.

Despite the fact that the team draws more than 3 million fans, Wrigley is an aging facility in need of hundreds of millions of dollars of renovations. An ailing economy also is putting pressure on ticket prices and corporate sponsorship, raising questions about how the new owners will make the expensive deal pay off.

The Ricketts family has deep resources and fought off interest in the team from a bevy of well-heeled suitors, including Mark Cuban, the billionaire owner of the Dallas Mavericks basketball team. In the final round, the Ricketts family edged out Chicago real estate investor Hersch Klaff and New York private-equity investor Marc Utay, a Chicago native, for the

0,000



What's next for Wrigley?

When Tribune Co. bought the last-place Cubs and Wrigley Field for \$21.1 million in 1981, the ballpark was antiquated and in a rundown neighborhood where fans sometimes were allowed to enter the bleachers free in the late innings.

It was a simpler time, when the Cubs were still a local phenomenon and Wrigley was just a half-empty ballpark.

But change is on the horizon. The Ricketts family soon may be running a division-winning team with a \$140 million payroll and a ballpark that has been renovated and upgraded over the years.

Landmark ordinances will prohibit too many changes to Wrigley, but fans should expect some kind of face-lift in the coming years.

The year 2014 is the 100th anniversary of Wrigley, a season that will be celebrated no matter who the owner is. Last March at Spring Training, Cubs Chairman Kenney outlined a plan that would update concessions and restrooms and bring in new revenue.

Among the biggest projects is the "triangle" building that would be just west of the park. The Cubs have planned on building restaurants, a Hall of Fame and workout facilities for players.

"Our mezzanine suites, we don't even call them luxury suites anymore because they're neither luxury, nor suites. We call them skyboxes," Kenney said last spring. "The washrooms? We all know the washroom situation is unacceptable. The concession, the quality of the food—we rank at the bottom." **TRIBUNE**

chance to become the ninth owner of the Cubs.

The family's pursuit of the Cubs was led by Tom Ricketts, 43, the second-oldest son of J. Joe Ricketts, who founded what became the Internet trading powerhouse known as TD Ameritrade Holding Corp. Joe Ricketts has an estimated net worth of \$1.2 billion, according to Forbes. Shares of the company also are owned by his wife and four children, including Tom, who started an investment bank in Chicago.

According to a highly placed MLB source, Commissioner Bud Selig hasn't met with the Ricketts group, but Selig didn't view that as an obstacle to the sale.

"From everything we know, the Ricketts are great people and should be a fine group to run one of our cornerstone franchises," the source said.

Tribune Co. put the Cubs up for sale in April 2007, upon announcing that it would go private in a debt-laden \$8.2 billion transaction led by Chicago real estate financier Sam Zell. The deal is needed to pay down debt.

WISH LIST

We asked RedEye's Twitter followers what they think should be priority No. 1 for a new Cubs owner? Here's what you said. Step up to the plate with RedEye at twitter.com/redeyechicago. COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG

@buttonall Secretly replace ivy with poison ivy. Give the Cubs outfielders protective suits.

@joem500 Priority #1 should be to get the Cubs into the most amazing new domed stadium.

@brettbittner Getting and retaining talent to win some championships.

@tylerstoffel Jake Peavey.

@othy Attract cooler fans.

@KBarrick I'm a simple fan with simple needs: W.I.N.N.I.N.G.

@avance34 Replacing troughs in the men's restroom with a giant hole. Or winning a Series?

@allanschoenberg We really don't want much, just one of those World Series championships.

Time to reclaim the Cardinals

All right, I'll be the first to say it.

Let's get the Cardinals back here.

It's getting pathetic around here when all I have to root for is the Arizona/Chicago Cardinals (I'm leaving out the St. Louis years).

Oh, don't start with me. In my mind, they never left. They started in Chicago in 1898, by the way. Perhaps more bizarre is that the team won its first title in 1925 by default when the Pottsville Maroons violated territory rights of the Frankford Yellow Jackets. That's exciting stuff. Maybe we should bring back territory rights and border wars to spice things up in the NFL.

I'm willing to overlook the '50s—33 victories in the decade. Truly a Chicago team. They played in Comiskey Park, you know, which technically still exists.

Think about what we would instantly get. A bona fide quarterback for one in Kurt Warner. Wow, never seen one before. Secondly, a tremendous big-time receiver in Larry Fitzgerald. For those who've forgotten: The QB throws to the receiver for yards and points. Thirdly, a bright coach in Ken Whisenhunt, which we'll shorten to Whise once he moves here.

Let's call the right people, and most importantly, pay the right people to make this happen. U.S. Cellular is still available. The future depends on it.

Speaking of the future, by now you know that it never arrives for the Cubs. Felix Pie, waived. He was the future after Corey Patterson was the future after Mike Harkey, Gary Scott ... blah, blah, blah. The point is, trades and free agency are nice, but build with your own too. The last time the Cubs had any of their own that was any good was Greg Maddux, and then, gosh, that's brutal. It never changes.

It won't change with new ownership: The finalists are all conservative, nondescript groups that will bring absolutely nothing new. Enjoy it, Chicago.



sacked again

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Steel-her

Our Facebook Five friend Becca Barczykowski is rooting for the Steelers in the Super Bowl. So is That Guy. Sorry, Becca.



TOPIC	JIMMY GREENFIELD jgreenfield@tribune.com	SUPRIYA DOSHI sdoshi@tribune.com	PHILLIP THOMPSON pithompson@tribune.com	THAT GUY thatguy@tribune.com	BECCA BARCZYKOWSKI redeyesports@tribune.com
1 How well will Blackhawks players represent Chicago at the NHL All Star Game?	They'll represent Chicago just fine as long as they don't score and their team loses.	Well, people will finally remember Chicago hockey exists, so that's a good start.	I can't answer on the grounds the average person can't pick these "stars" out of a lineup.	About as well as Blago represents Illinois.	They gotta represent in Montreal! A Chicagoan just BaRACKed the house in D.C.!
2 What skill would you add to the NHL's SuperSkills Competition?	Speed steak gumming.	Dentistry. Winner gets a new mouthguard.	The Pickup Game, showing what lines these guys use to pick up celeb girlfriends.	Hand-to-hand combat with Troy Polamalu. Go Steelers.	Nicest Smile.:-)
3 What Winter X Games weekend event are you most looking forward to?	The annual game of urinal cake toss.	The snowboard slopestyle competition. I can't wait to see what they wear.	I feel obligated to represent any events involving the word "SuperPipe."	Keg stands on ice.	Churning down Buttermilk Mountain in a snowmobile!
4 If PETA won't let Michael Vick do a public service announcement for them then the dictionary won't let George Bush do a public service announcement for it.	... I have no arguments.	... he could guest-star in the sequel to a dog movie, like "Sex and the City."	... he can still grill the burgers at their next picnic.	... the Card seek his nurturing bedside manner after they're destroyed in the Super Bowl!
5 How will Lance Armstrong fare in Sunday's final stage of the Tour Down Under?	It's only Jan. 23 and I already hit my quota for bicycling questions for the year.	In spandex ... the only reason Phil watches the sport.	If he wins, he dates a celebrity blond like Scarlett Johansson. If he loses: Linda Tripp.	Chafed thighs. ... No more Vegemite!	If you're trying to get back into the saddle, where better to start than Down Under?

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**watch
dog**

WHIZZER
redeyesports
@tribune.com

It's All-Star weekend.
No, not *that* All-Star
weekend.

This one's on ice,
not a basketball court.
With the way the Bulls
are playing we won't
need to worry about
an All-Star game,
except maybe rookie
Derrick Rose.

No, the resurgent
Blackhawks are
sending five players
to Montreal. Hush
now, that's not a
punishment. That's
where the NHL All-Star
Game is being played.
Here now, my TV
picks.

NBA
**BULLS VS.
TORONTO**
7:30 p.m. CSN

The Raptors are here
to rip the Bulls, but
not as bad as GM John
Paxson ripped them.

**AUSTRALIAN
OPEN**
**EARLY-ROUND
PLAY**

6 p.m., 10:30 p.m. ESPN2
Lance Armstrong is
Down Under too, but
he's biking. He's a man
at work.

WINTER X GAMES
**SNOWBOARDING,
SNOWMOBILING,
SKIING**

1 p.m. ESPN2,
8:30 p.m. ESPN
History could be made
as a snowmobiler
attempts a double
back flip.

Mean sleeves



Nadal
GETTY IMAGES

MELBOURNE, Australia Rafael Nadal has abandoned his trademark sleeveless tops and capri pants for T-shirts and above-the-knee shorts at this year's Australian Open.

Not everyone likes it.

Sports bloggers and fan forums have been puzzled by his new attire, with at least one female blogger complaining that she missed seeing his sculpted biceps.

Nadal shrugged off the interest.

"For sure, when you have a change, some people like [it], other people don't," Nadal said. "Not everybody liked the sleeveless. Right now [is] gonna be the same, no?" If the sleeveless look is confusing people, just imagine the reaction if Nadal showed up in these get-ups?



Serena Williams' black boots
and miniskirt



Maria Sharapova's
tuxedo top GETTY IMAGES
FILE



Bethanie Mattek's
leopard-print outfit
GETTY IMAGES FILE



Dominik Hrbaty's
ventilated shirt GETTY
IMAGES FILE

Flipping out

ASPEN, Colo. Snowmobiler Levi LaVallee has gone flippin' mad.

He's consumed with mastering a double back flip on his 450-pound Polaris, treating the trick like a science project as he tries to solve all the variables.

"Just a big physics test, more than anything," said the 26-year-old from Longville, Minn.

LaVallee has cracked the gutsy feat before, even landing his snowmobile safely a time or two.

Back home. In a foam pit. With few eyes watching.

Still, he's primed to unveil the maneuver for the world Friday night during snowmobile's next trick competition at the Winter X Games.



Unless he suddenly gets a bad vibe about the double back flip.

"If everything is comfortable and the sled's working good, and everything feels good, we might just see it," he said, winking.

HOMETOWN HITS



I Jeff Jordan is beginning to prove that basketball ability really does run in the family. Michael Jordan's son walked on at Illinois last year, but coach Bruce Weber said Thursday that the sophomore guard has earned a scholarship.

THURSDAY'S RESULTS

- » Wright St. 68, Loyola 47
- » UIC 65, Detroit 61
- » Murray St. 58, E. Illinois 46
- » IPFW 80, W. Illinois 71

HIT AND RUN



Landis coming back

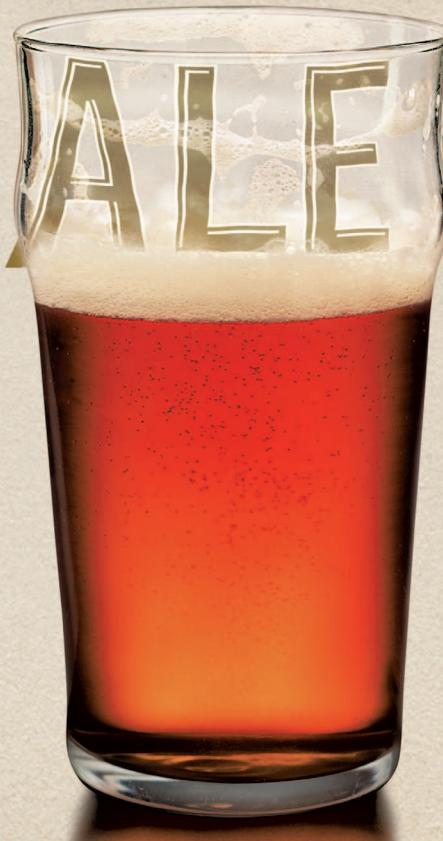
Floyd Landis, stripped of his 2006 Tour de France victory after a doping scandal, is coming back to cycling. He said Thursday he feels "like a kid again" knowing his two-year ban will end next week. He will ride in the Tour of California next month.

Meanwhile, in the Tour Down Under, Lance Armstrong finished among the lead pack in the third stage. He was credited with 32nd place with the same time as the winner..

ONE-LINERS

Boston Red Sox player Dustin Pedroia to be on cover of MBL 2009 The Show » John Legend to sing at NBA All-Star Game on Feb. 15. » Seven-time All-Star Alonzo Mourning announced his retirement at age 38. » Jeff Kent announced his retirement Thursday after a 17-year major league career ...

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Keep it fresh

Party with DJs, slam poets, goth musicians, beer geeks and more this weekend

weekend best bets

By Beth Geraci
METROMIX@TRIBUNE.COM

PICK OF THE WEEK

What's new

Toasting your stunning physique—or gear up for another shot at your New Year's diet resolution—at **New Year, New You**, a health-themed party at Le Passage. Don't miss a hosted bar featuring acai-derived spirit Veev (10-11 p.m.), and healthy appetizers such as sweet potato crostini. Want to make your future gym pals jealous? Cross your fingers for the party's raffle prize: a gym-and-spa package worth upwards of \$2,000. DJ Lee Michaels helps you with your cardio on the dance floor. Includes gift bags for the first 100 guests stocked with Equinox gym passes and Akira gift certificates. 10 p.m. Friday. \$10 donation benefits Step Up Women's Network. 937 N. Rush St. 312-255-0022. R.S.V.P. required for hosted bar: rsvp@lepassage.com



Le Passage
FILE FOR METROMIX

PARTY PICKS

Slam your hands together

Over the last year, local slam poets have competed each month in the Windy City Story Slam. Tonight, 12 finalists perform original works at the **Windy City Story Slam Championship** for a spot in this year's Edinburgh Fringe festival (Aug. 7-31), and audience applause determines the winner. Also performing: Uptown Poetry Slam founder Marc Kelly Smith, DJs Joe Shanahan and Eric Lab Rat, folk-rockers The Thin Man, rap group BBU and others. 8 p.m. Saturday. Free. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-790-1726.

Around the block

Festival season may be a distant dream, but the **Winter Block Party for Chicago's Hip-Hop Arts** is a reality Sunday. The indoor party starts at noon with free entry to see graffiti artist Revise CMW paint a mural on-site. Also, dance to hip-hop DJs Itch13 and Issues, and browse a mini-fair of works by artists Krista Franklin, Zeph, Kane and others. An open mic curated by author-performance poet Kevin Coval features playwright Idris Goodwin and slam master Roger Bonair-Agard.

The block party's ticketed **main event** starts at 7 p.m. (\$10-\$15). Kevin Coval and Idris Goodwin debut an original work, Revise CMW displays his completed mural, and author-activist-graffiti artist William "Billy Upski" Wimsatt talks politics with Chicago Tribune columnist Rick Kogan. Victory Gardens Biograph Theater, 2433 N. Lincoln Ave. 312-948-4644.



NV Penthouse Lounge
FILE FOR METROMIX

'70s flashback

Think disco's dead? Not so at NV Penthouse Lounge's **Studio 54** party. Dress the part and groove beneath disco balls as DJ Victor R spins '70s beats and a stiltwalker performs. Includes giveaways and admission to an afterparty at Spybar. 9 p.m. Friday. \$25 after 11 p.m. 116 W. Hubbard St. 312-329-9960.

Costume ball

Embrace the dark side of the season at the **Winter Carnival Masquerade**. The fourth annual goth bash features live music by quirky singer-songwriter Voltaire with a full band, plus electro-pop band Comasoft, goth duo Curiosity and illusionist Ron Fitzgerald. A bazaar, costume contest and DJs help fuel the fire. 8 p.m. Saturday. \$20-\$25. Abbey Pub and Restaurant, 3420 W. Grace St. 773-478-4408. Tickets: demonsanddarlings.com

BEST OF THE REST

Feel a draft

For a match made in heaven—or shall we say Chicago—head to the **Goose Island Beer and Food Pairing**, where you can sample five Goose Island microbrews and small-plate pairings, such as spinach and artichoke crostini with Nut Brown Ale, and chipotle and chicken spring rolls with Matilda. 7 p.m. Friday. \$35. Jake Melnick's Corner Tap, 41 E. Superior St. 312-266-0400.

On the make

Literally speaking, the release party for issue No. 7 of **MAKE: A Chicago Literary Magazine** has a lot to offer, including fiction and poetry readings by contributors John Beer, Faisal Mohyuddin and Jill Summers, plus a dramatic reading from Studs Terkel's book "Division Street: America" from local theater group The Plagiarists. Also, get complimentary eats from Innjoy, Alliance Bakery and more. Chicago Reader critic Peter Margasak spins. 8 p.m. Friday. \$10. Zakopane, 1734 W. Division St. 773-552-7440.

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18+ *Charges may apply to certain features.

Metromix's \$5 martini picks



THE CENTRAL

\$5 martinis, \$5 Bacardi bombs, \$5 appetizers; 3466 N. Clark St. 773-880-2222.

MATISSE

\$5 martinis; 674 W. Diversey Pkwy. 773-528-6670.

GRAND RIVER

\$5 martinis, \$5 sandwiches, \$3 Heineken, Heineken Light and Amstel Light bottles, \$3 SoCo Lime shots; 3032 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-281-9900.

TRYST

\$5 martinis, DJs spin 9 p.m.; 3485 N. Clark St. 773-755-3980.

WATERHOUSE

\$5 martinis, DJs spin 10 p.m.; 3407 N. Paulina St. 773-871-1200.

ATLANTIC

BAR & GRILL
\$4 Shiner Bock drafts, \$6.95 fish and chips; 5062 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-506-7090.

BLU 47

6 p.m.: Bronzeville Boogie. An after-work networking party features DJ Dolla Bill, drink specials and complimentary appetizers. Darry Petty and Toni Bailey host. No cover; 4655 S. King Drive Second Floor. 773-536-6000.

BUCKS SALOON

\$2 Schnapp's cocktails; 3439 N. Halsted St. 773-525-1125.

CAFE FRESCO

\$4 select Bell's drafts, \$4 vodka lemonades; 1202 W. Grand Ave. 312-733-6378.

CHARLESTON

\$3.75 Sam Adams bottles; 2076 N. Hoyne Ave. 773-489-4757.

THE COPA

\$4 Finlandia cocktails, \$8 Bud Light pitchers; 1637 N. Clybourn Ave. 312-642-3449.

EMERALD LOOP

\$4.50 beer of the month, \$9.95 turkey dinner; 216 N. Wabash Ave. 312-263-0200.

GLASCOTT'S

\$3 312 bottles; 2158 N. Halsted St. 773-281-1205.

HIGH DIVE

\$5 Makers Mark cocktails, \$5 burgers; 1938 W. Chicago Ave. 773-235-3483.

JUNIOR'S

\$1 domestic bottles; 724 W. Maxwell St. 312-421-2277.

KELSEY'S

\$3 domestic bottles, \$3 drafts, \$5 Bacardi cocktails; 2265 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-1666.

KENDALL'S PUB

\$3.50 312 drafts, \$5 Bacardi cocktails; 2263 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-348-7200.

THE KINETIC

PLAYGROUND
\$3 PBR bottles, \$4 well drinks; 1113 W. Lawrence Ave. 773-769-5483.

LEG ROOM

\$4 Stoli drinks, \$5 Snow Queen vodka drinks, \$50 discount on champagne and liquor bottles, DJ Mach 1 spins. \$5-\$10. RSVP for free cover before 1 a.m.: legroomchicago.com; 7 W. Division St. 312-337-2583.

RANALLI'S ON CLARK

\$2 off martinis; 2301 N. Clark St. 773-244-2300.

RED IVY

\$4 Absolut flavored cocktails, \$5 Belvedere cocktails, \$8 Belvedere martinis; 3525 N. Clark St. 773-472-0900.

ROCKS

LINCOLN PARK

\$4 Smirnoff flavored cocktails; 1301 W. Schubert Ave. 773-472-7738.

SLAINTE

\$3 Labatt and Schlitz drafts; 2138 N. Halsted St. 773-348-3665.

SONOTHEQUE

9 p.m.: Spandexxx. The DJ duo Rocktappus spins. Electronic indie duo He Say, She Say performs. \$5-\$10; 1444 W. Chicago Ave. 312-226-7600.

SUBTERRANEAN

\$4 Stoli flavored cocktails, \$5 appetizer combo, DJs Trew, Intel, Maker and Pickel spin. \$5; 2011 W. North Ave. 773-278-6600.

VAIN

NIGHTCLUB & LOUNGE
Zoo Fridays. DJs Bear Who?, Trilogy, NewLife and Blakish spin 10 p.m.; \$10; 2354 N. Clybourn Ave. 773-435-0130.

VISION NIGHTCLUB

10 p.m.: InsideOut. The Berlin-based recording artist spins techno with DJs Gianna Hardt, Liz Revision and Hernan Sanchez. \$10; 632 N. Dearborn St. 312-266-3333.

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—Chicago Tribune

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Friday

ANGEL MELENDEZ ORCHESTRA
9 p.m. \$15. The Morse Theatre, 1328 Morse Ave. 773-654-5100.

CHANGE WE XPLO, DJ SR71, PUGS ATOMZ, CAURAL WITH K-KRUZ, CHANGE!
8 p.m. \$10. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. [housecallent.com](#)

CHRIS MILLS AND NORA O'CONNOR
10 p.m. \$10. Hideout, 1354 W. Wabansia Ave. 773-227-4433.

EKOOSTIK HOOKAH, THE STRETCH
9 p.m. \$15. Martyrs', 3855 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-404-9869.

THE EVENING REDNESS, FARKUS, RALLY FOR ONE, SHANNON COREY
8:30 p.m. \$9. Elbo Room, 2871 N. Lincoln Ave. 773-549-5549.

KRUNO SPISIC'S GYPSY CARAVAN ENSEMBLE
10 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

MARIBELLE, SLEEPER AND DUSTIN COVERT
10 p.m. Tips/donations. Uncommon Ground on Clark, 3800 N. Clark St. 773-929-3680.

THE MDR, THE ASSEMBLY, TONIGHT THE PROM, METROVOX, DJ GREG CORNER
9 p.m. \$8. Metro, 3730 N. Clark St. 773-549-0203.

PONTIUS, CARBON FOUR, 20 MARK HELGA
9 p.m. \$5. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

THE PRAIRIE CARTEL, THE MPLS HENRYS, THE NEW LOUD
8 p.m. \$8-\$10. Bottom Lounge, 1375 W. Lake St. 312-666-6775.

Metromix's top shows**KINGS OF LEON**

Nashville rockers play a show benefiting pediatric cancer research at the University of Chicago Comer Children's Hospital. With The Whigs.

7 p.m. Sat. \$85-\$150. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

FRIGHTENED RABBIT

Nothing flashy. Just a great rock band. With Arc In Round (early show), Right On Dynamite (late show).

7 and 10 p.m. Sat. \$10. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

VICTORIAN HALLS

Chicago outfit twists pop into a wailing, but still tasty, pretzel. With Rosaline, Snowsera, The Hallow, The New Diet.

5:30 p.m. Sat. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. [housecallent.com](#)

RADAR EYES, TYLER JON TYLER

10 p.m. \$8. Empty Bottle, 1035 N. Western Ave. 773-276-3600.

RICHARD EDWARDS, CAMERON MCGILL, KENNY CHILDERS

10:30 p.m. \$8. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

RZL DZL, PARTY DOWNERS

6:30 p.m. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. [housecallent.com](#)

STREETS ON FIRE, LANCE MILK

10 p.m. Free. Crocodile, 1540 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-252-0880.

**Kings of Leon****RUE ROYALE**

Local husband and wife make indie pop that sounds like a quiet Friday night in winter. With Chaperone, Brendan Losch.

9:30 p.m. Fri. \$8. Beat Kitchen, 2100 W. Belmont Ave. [housecallent.com](#)

THE WAILERS

Not a bad way to turn that seasonal affective disorder around. 9 p.m. Fri. \$24.50-\$25.50. House of Blues, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

YELLOW HAMMERS

10 p.m. \$8-\$10. House of Blues Back Porch Stage, 329 N. Dearborn St. 312-923-2000.

Saturday**ALICE PEACOCK**

8 p.m. \$25. World Folk Music Company, 1808 W. 103rd St. 773-779-7059.

ALL CITY AFFAIRS, OLD DOG MUSIC

10 p.m. \$10 suggested donation. Uncommon Ground on Devon, 1401 W. Devon Ave. 773-465-9801.

COBALT AND THE HIRED GUNS, 72 HOURS, NOTHING FORGOTTEN, SURE FIRE GROOVE

9 p.m. \$8. Double Door, 1572 N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-489-3160.

DAVID BOYKIN'S EXPANSE, HAN BENNINK

9:30 p.m. Cover varies. The Velvet Lounge, 67 E. Cermak Rd. 312-791-9050.

DISCO BISCUITS, RJD2, PREFUSE 73
8 p.m. \$25. Congress Theater, 2135 N. Milwaukee Ave. 888-512-7469.

DR. KILLBOT, SUPER 8 BIT BROTHERS, LORD MIKE'S DIRTY CALYPSIONIANS, LOS VICIOS DE PAPA
9:30 p.m. \$7. Subterranean, 2011 W. North Ave. [housecallent.com](#)

THE DYNAMITES, ANDRE WILLIAMS AND THE GOLDSTARS
10:30 p.m. \$12. Schubas, 3159 N. Southport Ave. 773-525-2508.

FUNDAMENTAL ELEMENTS, RED WANTING BLUE, CHRIS BUEHRLE
9 p.m. \$7. Cubby Bear, 1059 W. Addison St. 773-327-1662.

FUNKADESI
9 p.m. \$20. The Morse Theatre, 1328 Morse Ave. 773-654-5100.

»» page 23

HARRY CARAY'S TAVERN
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GHOSTHOUSE,
BREAKERS BROKEN,
JOHNNY AND ROBBIE,
HOW FAR TO AUSTIN
9 p.m. \$8. Martyrs',
3855 N. Lincoln Ave.
773-404-9869.

HARRIS AND THE
MOOD, FAUXBOT,
GERONIMO!, HOORAY
9 p.m. \$7. Ronny's,
2101 N. California Ave.
mpshows.com

HOLDING MERCURY,
MAKESHIFT PRODIGY,
LATE APRILL,
THE MOVES
8 p.m. \$5-\$8. Reggie's
Rock Club, 2109 S. State
St. 312-949-0120.

JENNIFER LUCREZIO
10 p.m. Tips/donations.
Uncommon Ground on
Clark, 3800 N. Clark St.
773-929-3680.

LAMBCHOP, THE
PAPER HATS
7:30 p.m. \$16-\$20. Old
Town School of Folk
Music, 4544 N.
Lincoln Ave. 773-728-
6000.

ON-SALE TICKETS**On sale 10 a.m.**
Friday

Lamb of God,
As I Lay Dying,
Children of
Bodom, Municipal
Waste, God Forbid,
Friday, May 1 (\$33.50-\$36, all ages) at
Congress Theater.

On sale noon
Friday

Ari Hest, Tim
Brantley, Saturday,
March 21 (\$15, early
show: 18+; late show:
21+) at Schubas.

Plants and Animals,
Friday, March 27 (\$10,
21+) at Schubas.

On sale 5 p.m.
Friday

Fall Out Boy,
Metro Station,
Cobra Starship, All
Time Low, Saturday,
May 9 (\$26-\$41, all
ages) at Allstate
Arena.

MAD BREAD
9 p.m. \$5-\$15 suggested
donation. Elastic, 2830
N. Milwaukee Ave. 773-
772-3616.

MEXICAN
CHEERLEADER,
THE BROKE Downs,
DAYS OFF, TONGUES
10:30 p.m. \$8. Beat
Kitchen, 2100
W. Belmont Ave.
housecallent.com

MURLEY SHERTZ,
BOHO PAISLEY,
KEVIN KICKBUSH,
KEVIN MILESKI
8:30 p.m. \$7. Elbo
Room, 2871 N. Lincoln
Ave. 773-549-5549.

NASHVILLE
WRECKERS, DIVEBAR,
LONG GONE
LONESOME BOYS,
SCATTERGUN
8 p.m. \$7-\$9. Bottom
Lounge, 1375 W. Lake
St. 312-666-6775.

STYX
8 p.m. \$32-\$42.
Star Plaza Theatre,
8001 Delaware Pl.,
Merrillville, Ind. 312-
559-1212.

Sunday

ALASDAIR FRASIER
AND NATALIE HAAS
7 p.m. \$18-\$22. Old
Town School of Folk
Music, 4544 N. Lincoln
Ave. 773-728-6000.

BEATNUTS, CONNIE
PRICE AND THE
KEYSTONES, DJ HAUL
10 p.m. Free with
RSVP to scion.com/livemetro. Metro,
3730 N. Clark St. 773-
549-0203.

BLESSID UNION
OF SOULS,
KELLY MURRAY
8 p.m. \$12. Schubas,
3159 N. Southport Ave.
773-525-2508.

COACHHOUSE,
HUNTING ABROAD,
DIAGRAM OF TRUTH
8 p.m. \$5-\$8. Reggie's
Rock Club, 2109 S. State
St. 312-949-0120.

CRADLE OF FILTH,
SATYRICON
7 p.m. \$23.50-\$26.
House of Blues, 329 N.
Dearborn St. 312-923-
2000.

GUN HAT,
SETH WILSON,
ESS DOT BUSINESS,
SHAWN ERICKSON
8:30 p.m. \$5. Double
Door, 1572 N.
Milwaukee Ave. 773-
489-3160.

JEWEL
7 p.m. \$33-\$43.
Star Plaza Theatre,
8001 Delaware Pl.,
Merrillville, Ind. 312-
559-1212.

JOHN DAVEY,
STEREO SINAI
8 p.m. Tips/donations.
Uncommon Ground on
Clark, 3800 N. Clark St.
773-929-3680.

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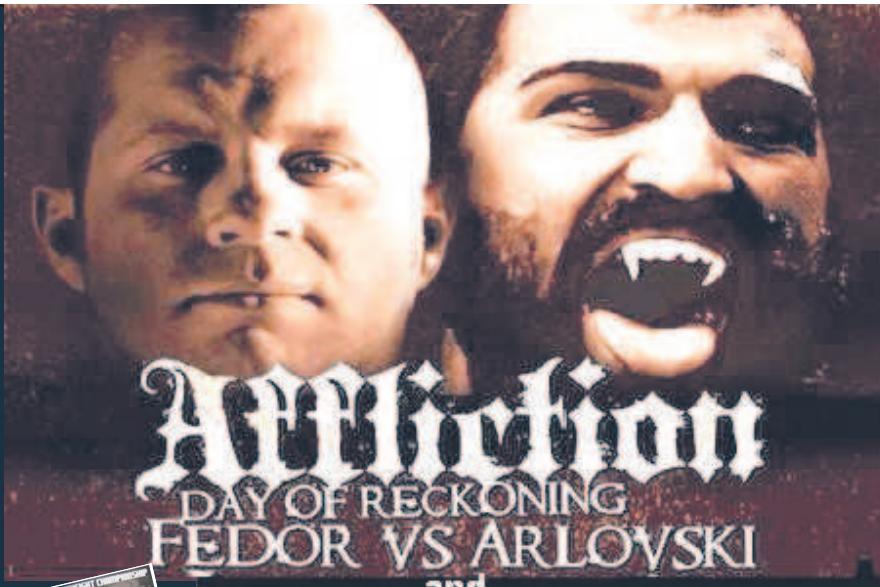
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¹ Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Occupational Outlook Handbook, 2008-09 Edition

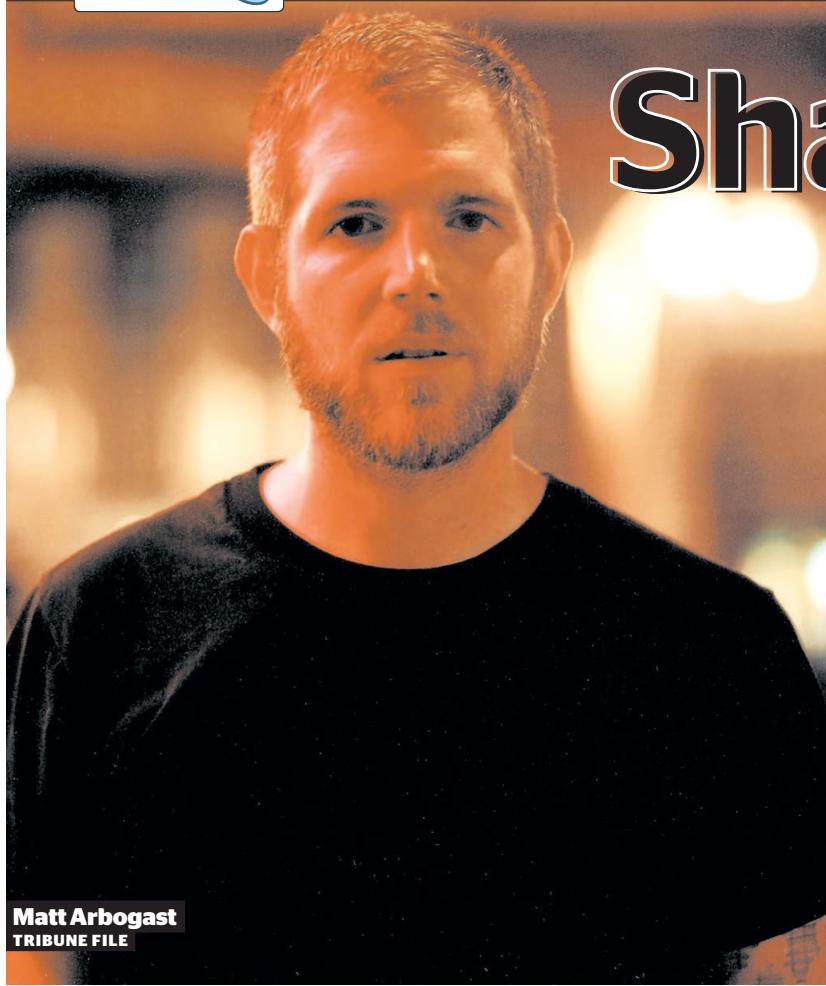
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Matt Arbogast
TRIBUNE FILE

Sharing spotlight

Chicago Tribune

Gunshy frontman Matt Arbogast is ready to share his workload with other members of his band.

Arbogast, who started the group with a rotating cast of players in 2002, has only recently embraced the idea of being in a full-on band, filling out the group's roster with permanent players for the first time in its existence.

"I liked having that much control, but I'm excited to share the creative process," said the singer, reached just before a mid-January rehearsal with bandmates Kevin Ware (bass), Jonathan Poole (guitar) and Matt Evert (drums). "I'm over it just being me. I'm over all the attention. I'm over being the sole source of creative input. I've always wanted this band to be a much louder thing."

This is just one of a number of New Year's resolutions Arbogast appears to have embraced. He also talks about writing simpler songs and of trying to do more with his voice—a rusty, Tom Waits-ish instrument that calls to mind busted machinery. In a sense, the singer is ready to stretch his musi-

cal boundaries, saying, "I want to see what I can do with this."

Arbogast felt compelled to shake things up following the two draining years he spent writing and recording the 2007 album "There's No Love in this War."

"That record was incredibly personal and elaborate, and it took a lot out of me," he said.

Not that the material he has written since has been any less intimate. A stopgap EP, "I Gave Too Much Time to the Wine," released late in 2008, found the singer examining the past decade of his life, reflecting on "how we develop into the adults we didn't

think we'd become."

And while music hasn't exactly been a lifelong pursuit for the 29-year-old, writing certainly has. On a recent trip home, the Pennsylvania native uncovered a box filled with poems and stories he penned as a child.

"I always knew I wanted to write," he said. "Once I picked up a guitar, I learned I could use it to translate those feelings. It just felt right."

What's in a name?

Guitarist for The Sword says metal band's name 'just looks good'

McClatchy Newspapers

If your band performs songs with names like "Fire Lances of the Ancient Hyperzephyrians" and "How Heavy This Axe," you had better have a name that can back up their bombast.

Something like: The Sword.

Not just "A Sword." The Sword.

"No one's been in a band called 'The Sword' before," guitarist Kyle Shutt said. "So many bands have, like, eight syllable names. The Sword. It just looks good."

The Sword formed in the music-friendly town of Austin, Texas, four years ago; they quickly secured a following and a spot at South By Southwest in 2005. Since that time, they've released two albums, including this year's "Gods of Earth." And most impressively, they've secured a spot opening for Metallica through May, a gig that leaves time for them to make stops at smaller venues on their off days.

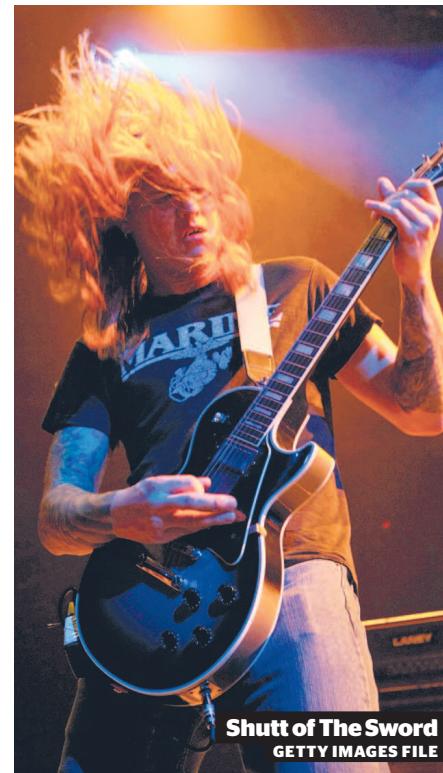
The Sword's sound is riff-heavy, dark and big, the vein of Black Sabbath. Lyrics are

conjured by vocalist and band founder J.D. Cronise, who draws heavily on Nordic and Germanic mythology. But that Sabbath comparison cuts both ways for band members.

"I hate it when bands get pigeonholed like that. But everybody does it. It's like you can't talk about any band unless you talk about how they sort of sound like another band," Shutt said. "You just stop listening to it after a while because people are like, 'Man, you guys must just listen to Sabbath all day long.' It's like, 'Yeah, maybe 10 years ago.'"

Heavy leanings aside, it was the band's more straightforward guitar rock that landed them a track on "Guitar Hero II." The track "Freya," off the band's debut, "Age of Winters," was selected out of several the band had submitted to the game developers.

"I played [the game] once. It's a lot easier to play on the guitar," Shutt said with a laugh. "The part that got me is at the end of the song in the game. There's this whole other part that's not in our song. So I always wonder if people see us live and are like, 'Man why didn't they play that part at the end?'"



Shutt of The Sword
GETTY IMAGES FILE

The Sword

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Where: Allstate Arena, 6920 Mannheim Road, Rosemont

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top downloaded songs from Jan. 14-21

Chicago Top 10

No.	Song, Artist	LW
1	"Right Now (Na Na Na)" Akon	4
2	"Single Ladies" Beyoncé	8
3	"If I Were A Boy" Beyoncé	9
4	"Hot N Cold" Katy Perry	3
5	"Can't Believe It" T-Pain	2
6	"Womanizer" Britney Spears	21
7	"Let It Rock" Kevin Rudolf	5
8	"Whatever You Like" T.I.	1
9	"So What" Pink	7
10	"Green Light" John Legend	16

National Top 10

No.	Song, Artist	LW
1	"Right Now (Na Na Na)" Akon	4
2	"If I Were A Boy" Beyoncé	6
3	"Can't Believe It" T-Pain	1
4	"Single Ladies" Beyoncé	7
5	"Hot N Cold" Katy Perry	3
6	"Let It Rock" Kevin Rudolf	5
7	"Womanizer" Britney Spears	25
8	"Whatever You Like" T.I.	2
9	"So What" Pink	8
10	"Green Light" John Legend	17

LW INDICATES LAST WEEK'S CHART POSITION / BIGCHAMPAGNE.COM

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The curious case of 'Dark Knight's' snub

Oh, the Joker would not be happy about this. And neither am I.

No best picture nomination for "The Dark Knight" is ridiculous enough. But to have that slot go to "The Reader," an Oscar-baiting bore that focuses on all the wrong parts of its own story? That's shocking.

Other initial Oscar thoughts:

Good news

» Heath Ledger, as expected, scores a nomination (and is the likely front-runner) for best supporting actor in "The Dark Knight." Best. Villain. Ever.

» "Slumdog Millionaire" and "Milk" picked up expected nominations. If "Slumdog" doesn't win best picture, I'll eat my hat.

(Note to self: Go buy a hat.)

» Marisa Tomei, best supporting actress nominee for "The Wrestler." Proof that not all "kind-hearted stripper" roles are created equal.

» "Tropic Thunder" scored an Oscar nod. Which goes to show how great of a year supporting actor nom Robert Downey Jr. had.

Bad news

» "The Curious Case of Benjamin Button" racked up a whopping 13 nominations. That's a shame; if the film was nominated for every similarity to "Forrest Gump," it would have landed at least 27 nods.

» Brad Pitt is nominated for best actor for "Button," which makes you think: Life would be so much easier if technology would do your work for you!

» "The Reader" director Stephen Daldry also stole the slot that should have gone to "Dark Knight" director Christopher Nolan. Did Nolan spit in the Academy's cereal or something?

» The Academy should nominate only one movie for best animated feature when there's only one good animated movie in a year ("Wall-E"). Did anyone see "Bolt" or "Kung Fu Panda" and say, "That's got Oscar written all over it!"?



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MATT PAIS
mpais
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1 MEET WOLVERINE

Oscar host Hugh Jackman is HUGE! And he's starring in what is likely to be a HUGE movie this year: "X-Men Origins: Wolverine." Not only could he plug that film, but he could take advantage of the popularity of two 2008 superhero movies, "The Dark Knight" and "Iron Man." Here's the skit set-up:

[Wolverine (Jackman) invites Batman (Christian Bale) and Iron Man (Robert Downey Jr.) on stage.]

Wolverine: Sorry about your lack of nominations, guys.

Iron Man: All I care about is getting to the bar. Where's the bar? The Golden Globes had free drinks.

Batman: It's a dark day in Gotham City. I want vengeance. The Academy must pay for this slight.

Wolverine: If you had claws like mine, you could tear their heads off. It's fun, really.

Iron Man: Guys, guys, relax. You're downright depressing. Lemme mix you an Iron-tini.

2 BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND

Jackman's big-screen bomb of last year, "Australia," is nominated for best costume design. But the film delivers its most memorable moment when Jackman, as an Outback horseman, strips down to take a shower outdoors. A re-creation of that scene would keep eyes on the TV, methinks.

Hugh Jackman
as Wolverine
20TH CENTURY FOX

Oscar's hero?

How Hugh Jackman can save awards show

I was so looking forward to an exciting Oscar knight this year.

But on Thursday, Oscar voters snubbed "The Dark Knight" as a best-picture nominee, thus mocking my love for the Bat and practically guaranteeing low ratings for ABC's Academy Awards broadcast. After all, the most-watched Oscar telecasts have featured wildly popular movies—think "The Lord

"of the Rings" and "Titanic"—nominated for the evening's biggest prize.

As bleak as these developments are for the network, all is not completely lost. Just as Batman always gets back up from the Joker's beat-downs, I have a five ideas for ABC on how to use Oscar host Hugh Jackman to salvage the Feb. 22 telecast.



3 WHO WANTS TO BE A MILLIONAIRE?

"Slumdog Millionaire" went from dark horse to Oscar front-runner with its 10 nominations, including best picture and director. Oscar producers should set up "Who Wants To Be A Millionaire?" with Jackman as host. He could quiz people picked from the crowd watching the red carpet arrivals with Oscar trivia. Imagine: "I won a million bucks, and met Hugh Jackman!"

4 PUNK'D PARADE

Yes, we can watch the red carpet arrivals before the Oscar ceremony. But really, horrendous fashion is what people want to see. So why not have a set of judges decide who looks the absolute worst, then have Jackman—luring the fashion offenders onstage under the pretense that they're part of a presentation—parade them around for the ultimate "Punk'd."

txtable

Almost famous

With 13 Oscar nominations, "Benjamin Button" isn't the most Oscar-nominated film in history. Which of the following two nabbed 14 nods? Text "oscar" and the number of your answer to **47383**. You'll get a text back telling you whether you got it right.

1. Lord of the Rings and All About Eve
2. Titanic and All About Eve
3. Lord of the Rings and Titanic
4. Ben-Hur and Titanic

In the running for Oscar

BEST PICTURE

"The Curious Case of Benjamin Button," "Frost/Nixon" "Milk," "The Reader," "Slumdog Millionaire"

BEST ACTOR



BEST ACTRESS



SUPPORTING ACTOR



SUPPORTING ACTRESS



DIRECTOR



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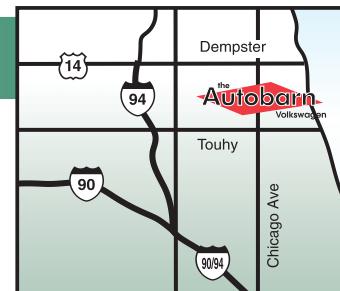
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Life in the 'Underworld'

Grevoix lets fur fly again for prequel

By Ryan Smith

FOR REDEYE

Kevin Grevoix has a lot to fit on his business card.

The deep-voiced, South Side native is a comic-book writer, screenwriter and actor—all of which came in handy for his work on the “Underworld” movie franchise. Grevoix penned the screenplays for the vampire versus werewolf sci-fi epics, writing himself a role as Raze, the right-hand man for Lycan leader Lucien.

For “Underworld: Rise of the Lycans,” the prequel in theaters Friday, Grevoix again dons fur as Raze in a movie he describes as “Spartacus with werewolves.” RedEye recently chatted with him.

“Underworld” is about a vampire/werewolf war. Where did this story come from?

Dimension Films wanted to do a werewolf movie after the success of “Blade.” So I said, what if we do like a “Romeo and Juliet”-type love story ... [with] werewolves on one side and vampires on the other and make it a surrealistic interracial love story against the backdrop of a centuries old race war between the two. [Director Len Wiseman] didn’t even look at me. He was just sort of silent and crossed his arms and was like “Dude, is this going to work?” I said, “Just hear me out,” so I basically beat out a story. The rest is history.

Who do you think would win in a fair fight between vampires and werewolves?

A Lycan. When I originally wrote “Underworld,” it would have taken two vampires to take down one Lycan. It’s just that there might have been more vampires, so it kind of evened out.

You wrote a role for yourself as a werewolf. How did that work out? Usually only Woody Allen gets to write himself into movies.

It’s fortunate that I have the talent to write so I can put myself into my own films. And it’s worked out great. People know me more for my role as Raze than they do me having created the franchise, but I think that’s good.

How do you prepare for a role as a werewolf? Watch a lot of old horror movies? Grow out a beard?

You know, [co-star] Michael Sheen actually read books on wolves. With me, I didn’t go that far. I just basically created my own mythos for the character Raze. It’s not like I’m doing a lot of growling or anything.



**Kevin Grevioux
as Raze**
SONY PICTURES

Wolves rule

If Rhona Mitra had to choose between being a vampire or a werewolf, she’d rather be a furry beast.

That’s a good thing, since in “Underworld: Rise of the Lycans,” a prequel in the vampire/werewolf franchise that opens Friday, the 32-year-old British actress plays a half-woman/half-wolf, the fierce and dangerous love interest of Michael Sheen, daughter of Bill Nighy.

After all the attention vampires have gotten on screen in recent years, this “Underworld” tips the scales toward the fur.

“[Vampire are] like Keith Richards or Mick Jagger—long-lived, timeless, sexy nocturnal beings who seem immortal and very cavalier about it. I can see why young girls would get all caught up in ‘Twilight.’ They’re sexy,” Mitra said.

“Werewolves don’t command the same sort of obsession, I’m afraid. They’re furry little things. They’re not as sexy ... I tend to go for werewolves, myself, in my life. None of these blood-suckers for me. Keep your fangs to yourself.”

THE ORLANDO SENTINEL



Mitra
» **“UNDERWORLD: RISE OF THE LYCANIS” WAS NOT SCREENED FOR CRITICS. LOOK FOR MATT PAIS’ REVIEW AT METROMIX.COM ON FRIDAY.**

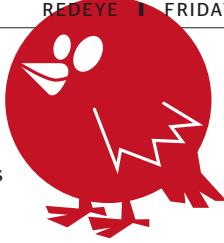


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@scorpionking601 Don't even bother

wasting your time or money

@dw1981 My Bloody

Valentine in 3D!! Go see it. Gory! Awesome! Better than the original!

MILK

@jrrtubbs I just saw Milk! It was a great way to celebrate MLK day. GO CIVIL RIGHTS! It was really inspiring.

BRIDE WARS

@courtney3711

bride wars
was very
disappointing.
There were
amusing parts,
but the last 15
mins were too



sappy even for a chick flick. Made me want to puke a bit. :o)

GRAN TORINO

@derekctfam Gran Torino seemed like an excuse for Clint Eastwood to grunt, wield guns, and come SO CLOSE to saying, “Make my day.”

NOTORIOUS

@SablePhoenix “Notorious”
= Ok movie. Sex scene is yuck, guy that played 2Pac sucked, the end was a bit heartwarming.

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@FoxBrownFox The Carter= deathwatch 4
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New 2009 VW Jetta \$189/^{per mo}
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\$1414 due at signing, includes first month payment, security deposit waived. Plus tax, title, license & doc fee.

To qualified buyers. Offer expires 2/2/09.



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\$1414 due at signing, includes first month payment, security deposit waived. Plus tax, title, license & doc fee.

To qualified buyers. Offer expires 2/2/09.



New 2009 VW Passat \$325/^{per mo}
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OPEN HOUSE SUNDAY 12-2



Chicago 222 S. Racine #48

This 3000+ sqft 3 br 2.1 bath home w/built-in surround system, 16 ft celis, maple kit w/granite & ss, hdwd firs. Roof deck w/city views & 2-car gar. \$679,900
Erin Ward 312-475-3220

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Phil Barone 773-467-5310

5501 W. Edmunds GB



Chicago Bill Fortune 312-475-3141

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+Financing with qualified credit thru Volkswagen Credit. On new 2009 Passat, Routan & Touareg. See dealer for details. Offer expires 2/2/09.

AUTOMATIC



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Chicago, IL 60621
773-873-3333

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10315 S. Halsted
Chicago, IL 60628
773-253-2910

Cagos Inc.
3942 W. Chicago Ave.
Chicago, IL 60651
773-276-5664

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402 E. 63st.
Chicago, IL 60637
708-289-7008



*Offer ends 1/31/09. Valid while supplies last and only at participating locations. Restrictions apply. See dealer for details.

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MATT PAIS
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OUTLANDER
 (R)


Outlandishly dull

Norwegians in 709 A.D. are getting along just fine—aside from constant, savage sword fights, of course—until a spaceship crashes and the lone survivor, Kainan (Jim Caviezel), explains that he's accidentally brought with him aliens called Moorwen. After some initial (and understandable) disbelief, the Vikings join up with Kainan to take down the massive, fast-moving creatures.

The buzz: "Outlander" apparently took 13 years, 5 producers and a rotating slate of cast members and locations to finally make it to the big screen, which is a long journey for something that seems like a relatively basic low-budget sci-fi flick. The added

bit of intrigue is the story's similarity to "Beowulf"—with, you know, the addition of aliens.

The verdict: You'd think mythological dragon hunting would be a B-movie slam dunk, but not when it's executed with so little ingenuity or zest. "Outlander" could have been a serious, scary action pic or an over-the-top cult classic. Instead, it's just a straightforward, dully average monster movie—with the requisite ickiness but without the fun. You'll care less about who gets slashed and/or chewed to pieces than about several of the Vikings' stylish beard pigtails.

MATT PAIS IS THE METROMIX MOVIES PRODUCER.

**Caviezel in
"Outlander"**
THE WEINSTEIN
COMPANY

**ALSO OUT
FRIDAY**

Find Matt's reviews of these and other films at metromix.com.


**WALTZ WITH
BASHIR**
 (R)

INKHEART
 (PG)

GRAN TORINO
 (PG)


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600 N. MICHIGAN (AMC)

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 (312) 255-9340

Show times change daily.

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Underworld (R) 2:15, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45
- Outlander (R) 2:00, 5:00, 7:45, 10:40
- Notorious (R) 1:30, 2:30, 3:15, 5:30, 6:15, 7:00, 8:30, 9:30
- My Bloody Val (R) 4:15, 10:10
- AMC Select Gran Torino (R) 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
- Bride Wars (PG) 2:40, 4:50, 7:20, 9:45
- The Unborn (PG-13) 1:30, 3:10, 10:30
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 3:00, 6:30, 10:00
- Marley & Me (PG) 1:15, 7:10

LANDMARK CENTURY CENTRE CINEMA (LANDMARK)

 2828 North Clark St., Chicago
 (773) 509-4949

- Che (R) 1:30, 7:15
- Revo Road (R) 2:00, 4:50, 6:30, 7:45, 10:30
- The Reader (R) 3:15, 6:45, 9:50
- Milk (R) 1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:20
- Slumdog Mill (R) 1:45, 3:00, 4:40, 7:40, 9:20, 10:30
- Doubt (PG-13) 1:55, 4:45, 7:35, 10:10

CITY NORTH 14 (KERASOTES)

 2600 N. Western Ave.
 (800) 326-3264 #1642

- Inkheart (PG) ★ 10:30, 1:00, 3:00, 4:30, 6:30, 9:10
- Underworld (R) ★ 11:30, 12:45, 2:00, 3:20, 4:50, 6:20, 7:30, 9:00, 10:00
- Hotel for Dogs (PG) ★ 10:00, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 6:50, 9:30
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) ★ 11:20, 12:20, 1:15, 2:50, 4:45, 5:10, 10:10, 7:10, 7:50, 9:45
- My Bloody Val (R) ★ 11:10, 1:10, 1:40, 4:10, 4:40, 7:00, 7:40, 9:40, 10:15
- Notorious (R) ★ 9:45, 12:30, 3:15, 6:15, 8:50
- Bride Wars (PG) 11:45, 2:15, 5:00, 8:00, 10:30
- The Unborn (PG-13) 1:20, 4:05, 6:45, 9:15
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 10:50, 2:30, 6:15, 9:50
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 10:15, A.M.
- Tale of Desp (G) 10:40, 12:50, 3:05

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE)

 4614 N. Lincoln Ave., Chicago
 (773) 784-0893

- Revo Road (R) ★ 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
- Slumdog Mill (R) 5:10, 7:30, 10:00

DAVIS THEATRE (VALUE) (continued)

- Gran Torino (R) 5:00, 7:40, 10:00
- Doubt (PG-13) 5:00, 7:15, 9:30

FORD CITY 14 (AMC)

 S. Cicero at 76th, Chicago
 (773) 582-1839

Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Inkheart (PG) 11:15, 1:45, 4:30, 7:05, 9:30
- Underworld (R) 10:45, 12:15, 1:15, 2:30, 3:45, 4:45, 6:15, 7:10, 8:30, 9:30
- Hotel for Dogs (PG) 10:50, 1:30, 3:50, 6:15, 8:40
- Notorious (R) 11:00, 12:00, 1:00, 2:00, 3:00, 4:00, 5:00, 6:00, 7:00, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 10:30, 12:45, 3:15, 5:20, 7:30, 9:45
- AMC Select Defiance (R) 11:50, 2:45, 5:40
- My Bloody Val (R) 11:55, 2:20, 4:50, 7:15, 8:40, 9:40
- Not Easily (PG-13) 11:30, 1:10, 5:40, 6:20, 6:45, 9:10
- AMC Select Gran Torino (R) 11:10, 1:10, 4:30, 7:10, 9:50
- The Unborn (PG-13) 11:45, 2:10, 5:30, 7:40, 9:55
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 10:30 A.M.
- Tale of Desp (G) 10:40, 12:50, 3:05

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER

 164 State Street
 312-846-2800

- Stranded (NR) 6:00, 8:30
- Christmas-July (NR) 6:15
- Amer Rev (NR) 8:00

LINCOLN VILLAGE THEATER

 6341 N. McCormick at Devon Chicago
 312-642-2403

Call Theat (NR)
LOGAN THEATRE

 2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
 (773) 252-0628

- Valkyrie (PG-13) 1:55, 4:05, 6:15, 8:30
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 2:10, 4:10, 6:15, 8:20
- Tale of Desp (G) 2:05, 4:05, 6:10, 8:10
- Twilight (PG-13) 2:00, 4:15, 6:25, 8:40

MUSIC BOX

 3733 N. Southport, Chicago
 (773) 871-6604

- The Wrestler (R) 5:15, 7:30, 9:45, 12:00
- Secret Grain (R) 5:00, 8:00
- The Crow (R) 12:00 Midnight

PIPER'S ALLEY (AMC)

 1608 N. Wells, Chicago
 (312) 642-7500

Show times change daily

AMC Select - The best specialty films

- Chandni Chowk (PG-13) 6:20, 9:40
- Waltz-Bashir (R) 2:15, 4:40, 7:00, 9:15
- Let the Right (R) 1:45, 7:30
- Rachel Getting (R) 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:15
- Vicki Cristina (PG-13) 1:50, 4:05
- The Dark Knight (PG-13) 4:15, 10:00

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)

 322 E. Illinois Street
 847-765-7262

Show times change daily

- AMC Select Milk (R) 10:30, 1:30, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
- Inkheart (PG) 10:35, 1:15, 3:50, 6:30, 9:20
- AMC Select Revo Road (R) 10:25, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:25
- AMC Select Frost/Nixon (R) 11:35, 2:35, 5:35, 8:35, 11:40
- AMC Select Slumdog Mill (R) 10:20, 12:35, 1:20, 4:20, 6:00, 7:30, 10:45, 11:45
- Underworld (R) 10:55, 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40, 12:00
- AMC Select The Wrestler (R) 10:00, 11:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:50, 8:55, 10:50
- AMC Select Last-Harvey (PG-13) 11:00, 1:40, 4:25, 7:10, 10:00
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 10:40, 1:15, 3:45, 6:15, 8:45, 11:20
- My Bloody Val (R) ♦ 11:30, 2:20, 4:50, 7:50, 9:30, 10:45
- AMC Select Defiance (R) 10:00, 1:00, 4:05, 7:20, 10:45
- AMC Select The Reader (R) 10:25, 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:30
- Not Easily (PG-13) 10:05, 12:30, 3:00, 5:30
- AMC Select Gran Torino (R) 11:10, 2:05, 5:15, 8:15, 11:15
- Bride Wars (PG) 10:10, 12:35, 3:05, 5:30, 8:05, 10:45
- The Unborn (PG-13) 3:00, 5:25, 7:50, 10:25
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 10:50, 2:30, 6:30, 10:30, 11:45
- Valkyrie (PG-13) 10:50, 2:30, 6:30, 10:30, 11:45
- AMC Select Doubt (PG-13) 11:00, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15

- Gran Torino (R) 10:10, 2:05, 5:15, 8:15, 11:15
- Bride Wars (PG) 10:10, 2:05, 5:15, 8:15, 10:45
- Not Easily (PG-13) 2:30, 5:00, 7:45, 10:20
- The Unborn (PG-13) 1:10, 3:40, 6:20, 8:40
- Marley & Me (PG) 10:10, 1:00, 4:00, 7:15, 10:20
- AMC Select Doubt (PG-13) 11:00, 1:50, 4:35, 7:25, 10:15

G - General audience PG - Parental guidance suggested

PG-13 - Parents strongly cautioned. Some material may be inappropriate for children under 13

R - Restricted, under 17 requires accompanying parent or adult guardian

NC-17 - No one 17 and under admitted

CICERO SHOWPLACE 14 (KERASOTES)

 4779 W. Cermak
 (800) 326-3264 #1644

- Inkheart (PG) ★ 1:00, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 9:20
- Underworld (R) ★ 1:20, 2:30, 4:00, 5:00, 6:30, 7:45, 9:00, 10:20
- Hotel for Dogs (PG) ★ 2:10, 4:40, 7:15, 9:50
- Defiance (R) ★ 1:20, 3:40, 6:50, 9:55
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) ★ 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40
- Last-Harvey (PG-13) ★ 1:30, 4:40, 7:45, 10:25
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) ★ 1:30, 4:50, 6:10, 9:40, 11:40
- My Bloody Val (R) ★ 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:40, 12:00
- Notorious (R) ★ 1:20, 3:00, 5:30, 6:50, 8:50
- Not Easily (PG-13) 1:50, 4:15, 7:00, 9:30
- The Unborn (PG-13) 1:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15, 12:00
- Bedtime Stories (PG) 12:20, 2:50, 5:10, 8:10
- Revo Road (R) 1:00, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40
- My Bloody Val (PG) 12:50, 3:40, 6:50, 9:20, 12:10
- Gran Torino (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:05, 12:50
- Yes Man (PG-13) 2:00, 5:15
- The Wrestler (R) 11:45, 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:25
- Slumdog Mill (R) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15, 12:00
- Revo Road (R) 1:00, 4:40, 7:00, 9:40
- My Bloody Val (PG) 12:50, 3:40, 6:50, 9:20, 12:10
- Gran Torino (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:05, 12:50
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 9:00 P.M.
- Slumdog Mill (R) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

OAK PARK LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)

 1022 Lake Street
 630-444-FILM #560

- Revo Road (R) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:35
- The Wrestler (R) 12:15, 2:35, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
- Hotel for Dogs (PG) 12:00, 2:15, 4:30, 6:45
- My Bloody Val (R) 12:45, 3:00, 5:15, 7:35, 9:55
- Last-Harvey (PG-13) 12:05, 2:20, 4:35, 6:50, 9:05
- Gran Torino (R) 12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 9:00 P.M.
- Slumdog Mill (R) 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00

EVANSTON CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)

 1715 Maple Ave.
 (847) 492-0123

- Inkheart (PG) ★ 1:15, 4:20, 5:45, 7:35, 10:15
- Underworld (R) ★ 1:24, 5:30, 6:55, 8:00, 10:25
- Waltz-Bashir (R) ★ 1:20, 4:30, 5:00, 7:20, 10:00
- Bride Wars (PG) 12:30, 2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:50
- Defiance (R) ★ 2:35, 3:50, 7:00, 10:10
- Doubt (PG-13) 1:30, 4:00, 6:50, 9:25
- Frost/Nixon (R) 1:15, 4:25, 6:50, 10:00
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40
- Gran Torino (R) 1:10, 4:20, 7:10, 9:40, 11:15
- Yes Man (PG-13) 2:30, 4:30, 6:30, 8:30, 10:30
- The Wrestler (R) 1:15, 4:15, 7:15, 10:15
- Hotel for Dogs (PG) ★ 1:10, 4:20, 5:30, 6:45, 7:55, 10:20
- Milk (R) 1:20, 4:15, 7:25, 10:25
- My Bloody Val (R) ★ 1:15, 2:25, 5:05, 7:40, 10:40
- Notorious (R) ★ 1:40, 4:30, 7:30, 10:35
- Blart: Mall Cop (PG) ★ 1:20, 4:20, 5:20, 7:45, 10:10
- Revo Road (R) 1:00, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05
- Slumdog Mill (R) 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
- Benjamin Button (PG-13) 1:10, 4:45, 8:50, 10:30
- The Wrestler (R) 1:15, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:30

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#1

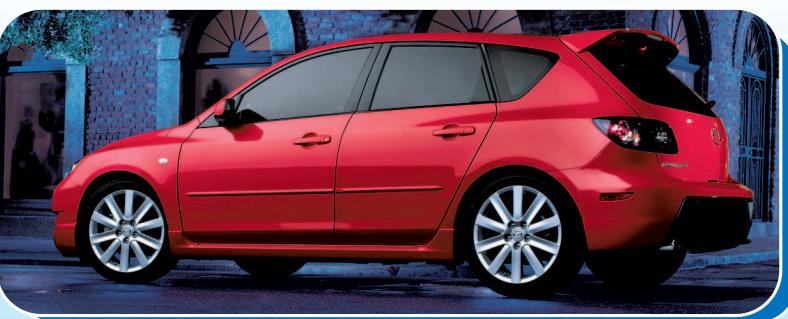
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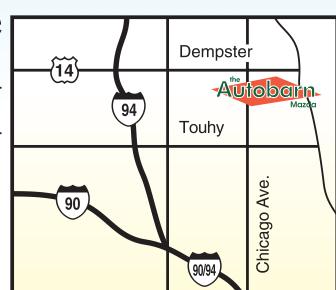
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GADGETS**The Chill Pill**

\$40 at smalldog.com; info at chillpillaudio.com.

Here's a possible cure for those midwinter MP3 blahs—two speakers that travel together as a too-cute little black capsule. I loved the Chill Pill even before the first listen. It's hard to resist a speaker that entertains without playing music. For its size, the Chill Pill sounded surprisingly good, better with the added height, and best, to these ears, with the speaker's drivers angled toward the listener, not firing upward.

KEVIN HUNT, THE HARTFORD COURANT

**SALES****4F Design**

4636 N. Ravenswood Ave, 773-771-4624

Alan Lerner and Aviva Alter have knocked 50 percent off all winter items for the store's current sale. Hand-dyed wool and faux fur hats are now \$50. Hand-dyed graphic Ts are \$10. Items originally priced up to \$20 are now \$5.

REDEYE

MOVIES**The Dark Knight**

Opens Friday; \$13-\$15 at imax.com/chicago

Warner Bros. is re-releasing the mega-hit on big—and bigger—screens for a limited time. Navy Pier's IMAX Theatre, at 700 E. Grand Ave., is showing the film beginning Friday. After the 9 p.m. Friday screening, fans can watch the free screening of "Batman Begins."

TRIBUNE

**TV****Afro Samurai: Resurrection**

9 p.m. Sunday, Spike TV

Fans of anime will love this beautifully done two-hour movie about avenging ninja Afro Samurai. Samuel L. Jackson returns to voice Afro, as well as his foul-mouthed sidekick Ninja Ninja. Lucy Liu voices his chief nemesis this time around, Sio, who hatches a convoluted scheme that involves bringing Afro's dad and others back to life to kill the big-haired anti-hero. It doesn't matter how confusing the plot gets, because splattering blood and flying limbs never looked this good.

CURT WAGNER, REDEYE

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Simply Vera by Vera Wang crystal headband, \$7.20 on sale at Kohl's



Gingham print fabric headband, \$22 at [topshop.com](#)

Tasha Swirl flower headband, \$42 at Nordstrom

Band together

Winter does a number on our hair. Frizz from indoor heating, split ends from the cold, tangles from the wind. Try a headband to look cute and keep your hair pulled back from the elements. Some fun colors or prints may ease the fact that you're facing subzero temperatures. OK, maybe not.

FRUGAL FASHIONISTA JOANNA GUSTAFSON IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



Velvet headband, \$9.99 at Target



Ponytail scarf, \$38 at Coach



Wide headband, \$4.50 at Old Navy

Free People pop flower headband, \$24 at [shopbop.com](#)



frugal
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Whispers of 'SEX'

Before you pony up the dough for a new Valentino dress, "Sex and the City" fans, let's have a look at the facts.

Yes, Us Weekly is reporting that the gang has signed on for another movie. No, we haven't heard any official comment about it from the cast or studio.

And maybe, it might be kind of a big deal—even if it is just a rumor.

In fact, the whole idea of another "SATC" movie got RedEye thinking: How would those extravagant storylines that a certain demographic first fell in love with back in the day play in today's sober economic and political times? We're thinking the characters might look a little something like this ...

Carrie Bradshaw

Sarah Jessica Parker

Carrie's dream marriage to Big hits a roadblock when he loses his mysterious fortune in the stock market. No longer able to support her lavish spending habits, she launches her own line of affordable designer clothes. A certain retailer agrees to market her \$8 dresses and \$10 jackets, but it soon goes belly-up as retailers cut their spending. Bottom line? Carrie and Big start renting in Queens.

Samantha Jones

Kim Cattrall

With her 50th birthday behind her, Samantha becomes ever more interested in traveling and seeing the world outside of New York and L.A. She still likes to get it on a lot, though, so it doesn't make much sense for her to travel farther than, say, Long Island. Over the years, she becomes more of a recluse as fewer and fewer clubs card her at the door.

Charlotte York

Kristin Davis

The consummate optimist, Charlotte looks the down economy in eye and says, "Hey, economy, stop being such a meanie!" She reads up on the financial guru Suze Orman and goes on a public speaking campaign to cheer up all the out-of-work investors on Wall Street. In her spare time, she meets up with the girls for box wine and takeout—hey, everybody's got to make sacrifices.

Miranda Hobbes

Cynthia Nixon

With her child getting a little older now, Miranda is finally able to focus full time on her career again. She quits her job with the law firm and heads to Washington to lobby for a position on President Obama's team. Though her hero Hillary Clinton has the secretary of state job now, Miranda bides her time in the hope she might one day rise to the seat of power she deserves.



GETTY IMAGES FILE

SCRIPTED ON TWITTER

RedEye asked its Twitter followers what the ladies of "Sex and the City" should tackle if a movie sequel becomes a reality. Here's what they said. Audition for RedEye at twitter.com/redeyechicago.

@leighryan AARP Membership? How to pay for Jimmy Choos on Social Security?

@egspoony The ladies should tackle a terrorist plot or something actiony.

@knitmeapony Cheeseburgers
@serenalove I don't care what they tackle just as long as they keep J Hud out of it. I'm sorry but she was the worst part of the 1st one.

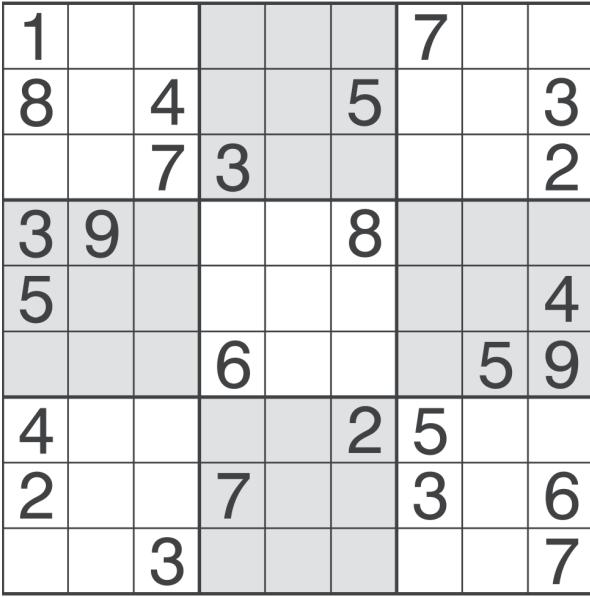
@FoxBrownFox Carrie & Big have a baby, Miranda & Steve have love child #2, & Smith returns to claim his Samantha. Mr & Mrs. Smith part 2
COMPILED BY SCOTT KLEINBERG.



txtable

Tanesha Watkins of Oak Park out-puzzled John with a time of 14 minutes—John finished in 26 minutes. E-mail redyeeditor@tribune.com or text "John" and your e-mail address to 32332 to play.

26 min. 14 min.



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THURSDAY'S SOLUTIONS

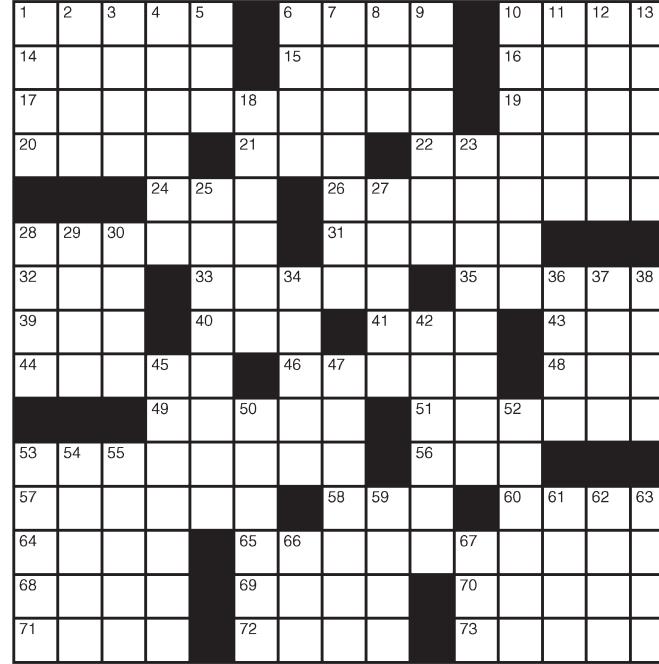
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DOWN

- 1 Isle near Corsica
- 2 Word breaker
- 3 Saga
- 4 Off the boat
- 5 Short sleep

ACROSS

- 1 "Rocket Man" rocker John
- 6 Scat!
- 10 Dice dots
- 14 Tropical vine
- 15 Icy frost
- 16 Work group
- 17 Some pens
- 19 Old Norse inscription
- 20 Precinct
- 21 Greek letter
- 22 At the scene
- 24 Pester
- 26 Abandon
- 28 Actress Dee
- 31 Follow afterward
- 32 Title role for Will Smith
- 33 Tree knot
- 35 Churchill's gesture
- 39 Tailor's fastener
- 40 Sucker
- 41 Eisenhower
- 43 Beluga product
- 44 Type of iron
- 46 Pentium maker
- 48 "A-Team" performer
- 49 Italian port
- 51 At any time
- 53 One of Jason's adventurers
- 56 Pekoe, e.g.
- 57 Attached shed
- 58 ET's vehicle
- 60 Blackthorn
- 64 Needle case
- 65 Soaking in wine
- 68 Prod
- 69 Pension \$\$
- 70 Mark sale prices
- 71 Little piggies
- 72 Table staple
- 73 Idyllic gardens
- 6 Tzu
- 7 One showing respect
- 8 Feed-bag bite
- 9 Bean and Welles
- 10 Goes after
- 11 North Slope dweller
- 12 Painted pony
- 13 "Village Wedding" painter
- 18 Liver, heart, etc.
- 23 French cuisine
- 25 Verbal warfare
- 27 Not illuminated
- 28 Tree juices
- 29 Touched down
- 30 Half a golf course
- 34 Vowels
- 36 "The Joy of Cooking" writer Rombauer
- 37 Like slasher movies
- 38 Court dividers
- 42 Comic Buster
- 45 Intense sufferings
- 47 Instinctive
- 50 Judd and Campbell
- 52 Squandered
- 53 Native Alaskan
- 54 So out it's in
- 55 Measuring instrument
- 59 Closed hand
- 61 Lo-cal
- 62 Son of Judah
- 63 Omelet need
- 66 Coach Parseghian
- 67 Exist



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red hot

Oscar buzz

Heath Ledger earned an Oscar nomination Thursday, the one-year anniversary of his death. The co-star of "The Dark Knight" was nominated as best supporting actor for his scary performance as the Joker. "His performance was an amazing thing to watch, thrilling and exciting," said "Dark Knight" producer Chuck Roven, according to The Associated Press. Here's how some nominees reacted to their nominations:



"I was with my parents and my dog when I got the news and we were all overjoyed—although I'm not sure my dog knew what was going on. This is a great day to be an actress!"

—Anne Hathaway, best actress nominee



"It's everything that you could possibly imagine it is, and not that I needed the nomination to know I was on the right path, but it certainly helps. It really does."

—Viola Davis, supporting actress nominee



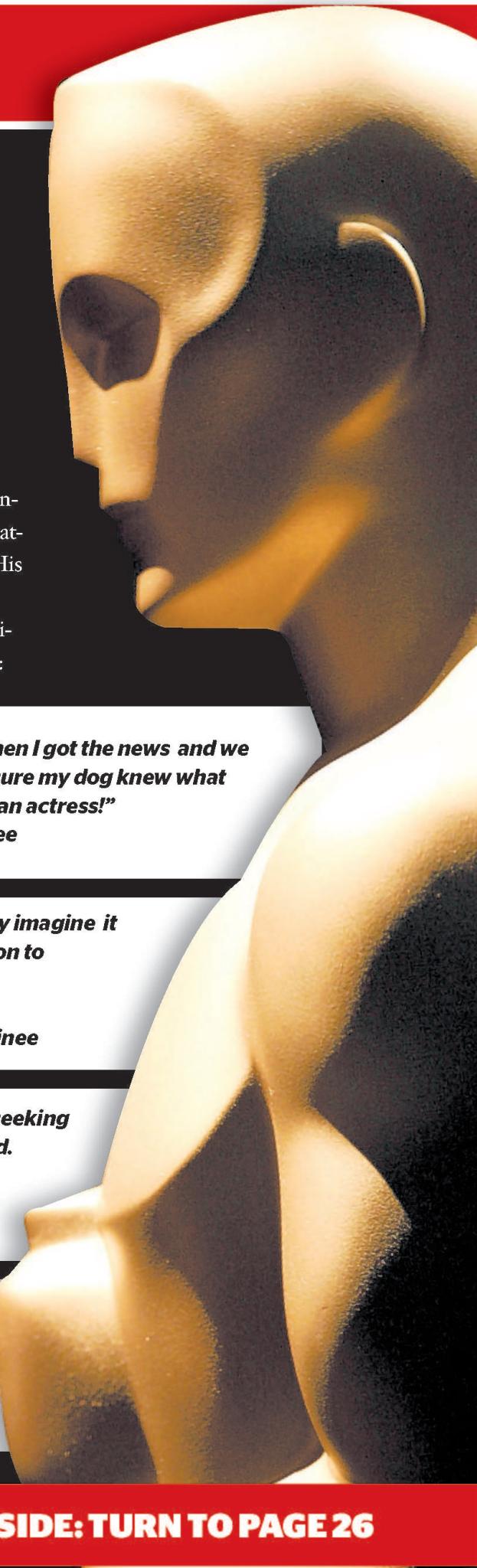
"It's about time narcissistic, accolade-seeking idiotic actors were formally recognized. It's been a long, hard road for us."

—Robert Downey Jr., best supporting actor nominee



"I always prepare myself for the worst. I was very excited."

—Penelope Cruz, best supporting actress nominee



Paging Dr. Ross

"ER" bagged a big one, and a smaller one, for its final season. According to [radaronline.com](#), George Clooney filmed scenes



Clooney

Thursday on an ultra-secret set built just for his appearance. Clooney left the show in 1999 after five seasons as Dr. Doug Ross. But wait, there's more. A rep for Julianna Margulies told Entertainment Tonight she's also on board to return this season.

They did what?

Three-way vacay alert! Holly Madison and her magician main squeeze, Criss Angel, were joined by Paula Abdul for some fun, sun and sand in Cabos San Lucas, according to E! Online. The twosome hung with their "American Idol" bud, and then lingered behind after Abdul flew out of Mexico, E! reported.

'Top Chef' spoiler

Don't say we didn't warn you. Chicago's "Top Chef" contestant Radhika Desai went down in flames on Wednesday's "Restaurant Wars." Desai told Bravo's "Burning Questions" blog her team's food was better, citing her rival team's raw and bony fish. She also hinted that her elimination wasn't cooking-related. "It comes down to what the judges want and ... and my personality doesn't offer as much drama as some other contestants."

Done deal?

Dakota Fanning is reportedly in talks to play Jane, an angelic-looking-yet-terrifying vampire who tortures others by using her mind in the "Twilight" sequel, [eonline.com](#) Fanning reported. Director Chris Weitz is expected to start shooting "New Moon" in March.



Fanning

THE DIGIT

11.4 million

Number of viewers who tuned in to the premiere of "Lost" on Wednesday night. In related news, Jorge Garcia, who plays Hugo "Hurley" Reyes, debunked at least one show theory. "There's a theory that the whole thing was going on inside the dog's head—that it was his imagination. I'm pretty sure that one's wrong," he told New York magazine.

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